

## Grants to boost private rail freight

# Rifkind to end BR monopoly for passengers

By MICHAEL DYNES, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

PRIVATE firms will be allowed to compete with British Rail to provide passenger and freight services, Malcolm Rifkind, the transport secretary, announced yesterday.

The move is part of the government's attempt to revitalise the railways and relieve the country's congested network of motorways and trunk roads.

Mr Rifkind unveiled a three-fold increase in the capital grant for companies that wish to build sidings so that they can transport goods by rail, and challenged industry to make the most of the new opportunities. He said that although the growth in the number of private cars prompted the decline of the railways in the 1950s and 1960s, the same factor had led to a reversal in its fortunes in the 1970s and 1980s. The railways now needed to be radically overhauled to meet customer needs.

"We intend to allow anyone who wishes to provide rail services to be able to do so," Mr Rifkind said. "They will

no longer require British Rail's permission or be obliged to use their staff or rolling stock. Monopolies are no more acceptable on the railways than elsewhere."

While government critics branded Mr Rifkind's speech as an embarrassing reversal of Margaret Thatcher's alleged hostility towards the railways, yesterday's announcement represents only a marginal change of emphasis in government transport policy. The decision to let private companies compete with BR is widely seen as the first step in a long road towards privatisation.

Mr Rifkind reiterated the government's commitment to selling off the railways, but insisted that no detailed decisions had been taken. The abolition of BR's monopoly would let private firms offer alternatives to road freight distribution. New technologies for combined road-rail transport, which promise to revolutionise the freight industry, offered far greater opportunities than had so far been realised, he said.

The transport secretary emphasised that the government remains committed to its £17 billion road building programme. He said, however, that "taxpayers cannot bear the full costs if our requirements are to be met in the foreseeable future" because of the huge sums involved. "There must now be a flourishing and substantial programme of investment by the private sector."

He ruled out the prospect of new road building programmes in urban areas and said that "more imaginative initiatives are required". These are likely to include the use of light rapid transit systems in more urban areas, and the implementation of London's experimental priority routes scheme in other towns and cities. The viability of road pricing will also be examined.

The proposals were criticised yesterday as falling far

short of an integrated transport policy. John Prescott, Labour's transport spokesman, described Mr Rifkind's decision to increase grants for new freight facilities as a "massive conversion greater than that of St Paul on the road to Damascus". He also said that the government's determination to press ahead with privately-funded toll road schemes would lead to a "two-class road system".

Richard Rosser, general secretary of the Transport and Salaried Staffs' Association, said the speech "was all about image rather than substance, and may prove little more than a smokescreen enabling private operators to muscle in on the profitable parts of BR's freight business".

Jimmy Knapp, the general secretary of the Rail, Maritime and Transport union, said that the proposal to allow anyone to operate passenger and freight services "raises many operational and safety problems which will be difficult, if not impossible, to overcome. I have seen too many false dawns promising a new era for railways to be carried away by a statement which is clearly aimed at the next election," he said.

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### TODAY IN THE TIMES

#### CLOTHES



Sophie Birdwood, artist and comedian, is as likely to be seen buying clothes at an Oxford shop as at Yves Saint Laurent page 12

#### PERCEPTIONS



William Waldegrave, embattled health secretary, can take scant comfort from even the "friendly" newspapers page 11

#### WAR TALK



As George Bush prepares to define a "new world order", his advisers study predictions of a trade-fuelled shooting war with Japan page 14

### Checks lifted for crash jet

The Austrian jet on which 223 people died after an explosion over Thailand did not undergo security checks introduced during the Gulf war. Niki Lauda, chief of Lauda Airlines, said airport rules were lifted on May 5. Page 20

### Rolls storm

Lord Tombs, chairman of Rolls-Royce, told shareholders at a stormy annual meeting that he is to take a 10 per cent cut in his basic pay of £150,000 this year. Page 21  
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### Francis named

Geny Francis became the manager of Queen's Park Rangers as Cardiff City announced the dismissal of Len Ashurst. Page 39

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## Thatcher unsettles Moscow diplomats

By MARY DEBEVSKY and RICHARD FORD

TO THE obvious discomfort of British officials Mrs Thatcher yesterday strongly supported independence for the Baltic republics and suggested that President Gorbachev be invited to the forthcoming Group of Seven summit in London "as a guest". The British government under John Major has deliberately trodden more cautiously on both of these sensitive matters.

British diplomats in Moscow have been keen to emphasise the private nature of Mrs Thatcher's trip to Moscow, and seemed embarrassed yesterday to see British reporters at the Supreme Soviet, at the Kremlin, where the former prime minister made her remarks. Mrs Thatcher has been received by

the Russians almost as if she were still in office. The Foreign Office refused to comment on Mrs Thatcher's remarks. However, they clearly differ from the government's formal attitude on both the Baltic republics and the G7 summit.

Speaking to the Soviet parliament's international relations committee, Mrs Thatcher made a forthright plea for the Baltic republics to be given their independence. "We in the West," she said, "regard the three Baltic states as a totally different category from the other republics. Britain and the Western democracies have never recognised the Baltic states as legally part of

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Photograph, page 10

## Worn-out Chinooks push crews past limit

By EDWARD GORMAN

RAF Chinook helicopter crews operating in the safe haven in northern Iraq say that exhaustion and worn-out aircraft may have pushed them over the limits of safe flying.

The crews have voiced their concerns because they believe insufficient attention has been paid to their predicament. Some have expressed fears that two components of a disaster - tired pilots and defective machinery - have been ignored.

The pilots say that the Chinooks have been flying with under-powered engines, damaged by sand in the Gulf. Some have wiring problems caused by chafing by sand. Some aircraft have problems with automatic throttle mechanisms controlling the engines and in others parts of the hydraulic ramp at the back are defective. One

crew member likened flying in Turkey to having "a car needing a 10,000-mile service and driving it over 40,000". Another said that the cockpits were shot to pieces. All the planes were operating with broken or faulty components and their performance was below normal, he said. "It is just that the aircraft are really, really tired", he added.

Mechanical difficulties have been worsened by the conditions in the safe zone. At the height of the operation crews were flying six to eight hours every day over a 250-mile range, clocking up about 800 miles daily and delivering about fifty tons of supplies. The RAF sent 12 of its 32 Chinooks to Turkey at the launch of John Major's haven plan in mid-April. Since then they have flown hundreds of hours, delivering supplies to Kurdish refu-

ges and soldiers in northern Iraq from bases at Diyarbakir and Silopi. The defence ministry denied that safety had been compromised. It said: "We have been working the aircraft very hard. If we had not done so many people would have died, but we have not been working the aircraft over the safety limits."

According to the crews the aircraft were in a serious condition when they arrived in Turkey, having been flown almost continuously for three months up to and during the Gulf war. The planes were loaded on to ships in Saudi Arabia to be returned to bases in Germany and Britain for a comprehensive overhaul after the fighting, but were diverted at the last minute to the Turkey-Iraq border.

Much of the flying has been at the limits of the Chinook's altitude at

10,000ft over snow-capped ranges. "We are pushing the machine to the limits", one crew member said. "Even the most experienced crews are saying it is the most challenging flying."

Worn machinery is mirrored by exhaustion and low morale among pilots who were promised a month's leave after the Gulf followed by four months during which they would not be posted on operational duty in the Falklands, Northern Ireland or anywhere else outside their home base.

Some pilots had only one week's leave before being recalled. Others managed three weeks. They say they have not had a chance to recover from stressful and exhausting flying in the Gulf. "The machinery reflects the state that we are in", one said.

Chinook checks, page 2



Palatial battleground: a victorious soldier from the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front walking through the remains of the ammunition depot in Addis Ababa's presidential palace yesterday. Rebel forces attacked the building using tanks, mortars and heavy artillery

## Rebels seize leader's lair

Sam Kiley followed the rebels as they took the presidential palace in Addis Ababa and found the evidence of Mengistu's towering ego

The 19th century state rooms inside the Menelik Palace, where presidential guards fought an unsuccessful last stand against invading rebels of the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front were remarkably intact given the fierce tank and infantry battle that had raged in the grounds yesterday.

Outside the chambers, occupied for 14 years by deposed President Mengistu, burnt-out tanks smouldered amid hundreds of live mines, mortar bombs and machinegun shells that erupted when the palace armoury was hit by tank fire. But his inner sanctum emerged unscathed.

Examples of his towering ego were evident everywhere. In the palace chapel, a 40ft high portrait of Mengistu hung from a scaffolding in front of the altar. The nave of the building had been turned into a dining room for his presidential guards. Half-eaten meals lay on the tables.

Inside the legislative chambers, where Mengistu met with his parliament, the Dergue, there were more Soviet realist-style paintings of the president leading his workers and soldiers to victory. An ironic detail of one shows Mengistu and his forces defeating Eritrean rebels to the north on a map of Ethiopia.

Fighters from the Tigrayan People's Liberation Front and the Eritrean People's Liberation Front, who make up the bulk of the revolutionary democratic front, wandered confidently through his lair, smiling, waving, and soaking up their

Continued on page 20, col 8

## Ethiopia regime dies in short, sharp battle

By SAM KILEY IN ADDIS ABABA AND MICHAEL BINYON IN LONDON

ETHIOPIAN rebel forces swept through Addis Ababa early yesterday morning and in a swift battle took control of the presidential palace, toppling the 17-year-old marxist regime and securing their claim to be the de facto government of the nation.

Hours later the Ethiopian peace talks ended abruptly in London after the United States endorsed the takeover by the victorious Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front. Herman Cohen, the US assistant secretary of state for Africa, announced after only a few hours of roundtable talks at the Admiralty Building that the revolutionary front would assume interim state powers pending a conference to set up a broad-based provisional government. He said American backing depended on the commitment of the new government to democracy and pluralism.

Internationally monitored elections are to be held in nine to 12 months. The Ethiopian front and two other groups, representing the Eritreans and Oromos, will meet again before July for another conference.

At 5.25am local time Ethiopian tank tanks streamed up Menelik Avenue firing their guns at the palace gates. At least 20 tanks swept north and west as they reached the gates. They came under heavy fire

from presidential guards inside. Five civilians were shot down in the crossfire while the rebel troops crouched in an office building halfway between the Hilton Hotel and the palace waiting for their signal to move in.

In a merciless barrage, the rebels fired hundreds of rockets, tank shells and anti-aircraft volleys at the palace. A government tank attempting to break out and head north was destroyed with one blast. Tracer bullets from heavy machine guns, anti-aircraft weapons streamed over the city, some of them exploding in the mountains to the north of the palace.

The Hilton Hotel was hit several times by shrapnel and small arms fire. Elsewhere in the city, there was fierce fighting outside the ministry of telecommunications and information, and the headquarters of the Workers' Party of Ethiopia in Araklio, 2.5 miles from Revolution Square.

The rebels attacked the city on three fronts meeting little resistance. Kubrom Neraio, a battalion commander who had come into the city from the north, said that he had reached the capital at 5am after an almost uninterrupted 11-hour drive. "It was simple. None of my men was killed at the international airport and the three camps holding presidential bodyguards were

taken in 1½ hours," the commander said.

The turning point in the battle for the presidential palace came when rebel tanks fired into the compound's arms dump. This caused huge explosions which shook windows all over the city. Shrapnel speared hundreds of feet into the air, forcing even rebel tanks outside the palace walls to fall back.

As the explosions died down and the sun rose over Addis Ababa, the rebel infantry moved up to the palace walls and leapt in, engaging government soldiers still inside in a fierce fire fight.

In London, Tesfaye Dinka, the outgoing prime minister who boycotted yesterday's talks, immediately denounced the agreement, saying it was unrepresentative. He left the conference "very disappointed".

US blessing, page 9  
Leading article, page 15

## King acts on army shake-up

TOM King, defence secretary, yesterday promised "a fairly early announcement" about changes to the British army following a Nato agreement to reshape and cut allied forces in Germany.

Britain will command the rapid reaction corps, as disclosed last week in *The Times*. There will be six other multinational corps. Nato strength will be cut by more than a fifth.

Mr King said that Britain had not been able to make changes sooner "because we wanted to stay in step with Nato plans". Under the new proposals there would be 25,000 British troops stationed in Germany.

Although the ministers decided that the Nato armies would be turned into multinational "crisis management" units, this will not happen until after 1994 when Soviet forces have withdrawn fully.

Forces shake-up, page 10

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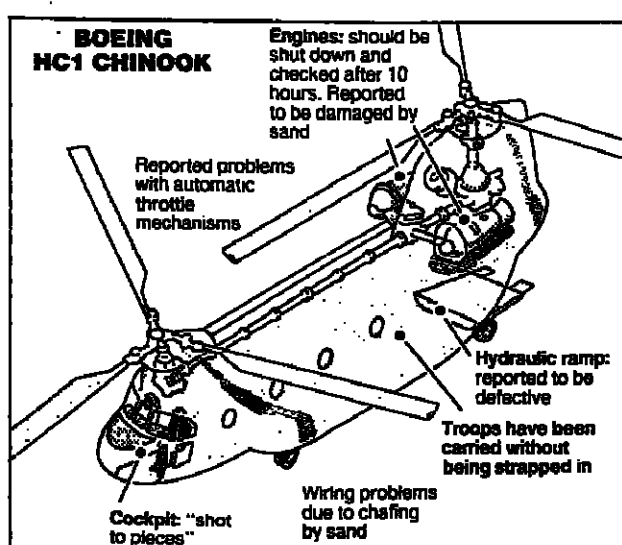
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# Falklands veteran leads RAF helicopters back for complete refit



ALL 32 Chinook helicopters in the RAF's fleet are to be sent back to Boeing to be completely refurbished in a four-year programme costing more than £100 million.

The first of the fleet — the only Chinook to fight in the Falklands conflict — is already in Philadelphia, where it will be taken apart "bolt by bolt" and refitted with new hydraulic systems, transmission, fuselage, electronics and wiring. The second is due to be sent this month and by the end of next year seven Mark HC 1s, which were first delivered to the RAF in 1980, will have become HC 2s, containing the latest equipment now in-

cluded as standard in similar helicopters in service with the US armed forces.

The Chinooks which were sent to Iraq and Kuwait during the Gulf war had been expected to operate in a hostile environment for far longer than they actually did. Only those with a large balance of working hours were sent. It had been expected that they would have to be serviced

only when it was operationally possible, but in the event the war lasted such a short time that they were maintained at the regular peacetime levels.

The Chinooks had been hastily painted in desert camouflage, which is now flaking, and fading and certainly no longer look in the best of condition. However, since they began operations in the safe havens none has

suffered an accident and none has been involved in any kind of incident caused by mechanical failure, a record which senior RAF officers regard as "quite remarkable".

Because all helicopters suffer from potential gearbox problems the RAF Chinooks are fitted with "chip detectors" which automatically monitor the quality of the oil and display warnings in the cockpit. The helicopter crews are trained in basic maintenance and are qualified to carry out routine inspections of all key areas.

After ten hours' continuous flying the helicopters are given a more rigorous inspection

and after 25 hours in service the oil from all the main components is analysed for signs of metal shavings from damaged parts.

Routine tests are made on all the systems both before and after every flight. At the end of 125 hours the helicopters are subjected to primary inspections when many of the most vulnerable parts are changed automatically, whether or not they have been showing signs of wear.

This is followed by a more detailed inspection after 250 hours' flying. An even more rigorous inspection is made after 500 hours when more parts are changed rou-

tinely and after 1,000 hours most of the main moving parts are replaced.

Although the maximum number of soldiers sitting in bucket seats running the length of the fuselage is supposed to be only 44, up to 81 were carried during the Falklands conflict. Because the helicopters are operating under military conditions 11 extra troops are often carried sitting on the floor between the knees of those strapped in the canvas seats. Although they too are strapped in on routine exercises, the rules are often "bent".

Crews' concern, page 1

## Post Office believes four-day counter strike will fail

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

POST Office managers believe that the four-day strike by counter staff, due to start today, which threatens to hit the payment of pensions and other services, is likely to collapse without any need to increase a 7 per cent pay offer.

In line with that, Post Office Counters yesterday stepped up the pressure on the Union of Communication Workers by writing to ask it to call off the strike and to ballot its 12,500 counter members on the pay offer.

Managers' belief that there is little support for the strike lies behind the Post Office's refusal to attend any talks with the conciliation service Acas after an approach by union leaders, who are looking for an increase of 8.2 per cent. The union points to last year's profit for counter sales of £21.7 million and claims results for the current financial year will be even higher.

Senior Post Office managers believe that support for the selective strikes by counter staff called by the union last

week was only patchy, and expect that pattern to be repeated in the four-day national strike which has been called from today among the 14,000 counter staff. They believe that union leadership is divided on the strike, with negotiators recommending acceptance of the 7 per cent offer before the national strike was called, and believing that there is little prospect of a higher offer. Some union officials, however, believe that a repackaging of the current offer could see its value lifted to about 7.5 per cent, which might well be enough to end the dispute.

Both sides will today be closely monitoring the extent and impact of the strike. Alan Tiffin, union general secretary, said that 80 per cent of his members involved in last week's action had responded very quickly to the strike call, and he was confident of a good response to today's planned action.

But John Roberts, managing director of Post Office

Counters, said that most services would be unaffected by the action, and put further pressure on the union by writing directly to Mr Tiffin, asking him to call off the national strike and to ballot the union's members on the 7 per cent offer.

● Old people unable to pick up their pensions at the post office this week because of official industrial action by staff may be surprised to learn that the strikers are not traditionally the stuff of which trades union militants are made (Bill Frost writes).

More in sadness than in anger, the Post Office yesterday spoke of the moderation which normally characterised the negotiating posture of counter staff. "Traditionally they have a very good record," said a spokeswoman. "Fifty-two per cent of staff are women and they are moderates. The last time they embarked on national industrial action was December 1988."

The issue at the heart of that dispute was the downgrading of main post offices to sub-post office status. The union claimed at the time the move would mean fewer jobs and inferior customer service. The dispute left many counter staff in more militant mood, a legacy which remains to this day.

Sorters and other post office workers may this week refuse to cross picket lines, particularly in city centres, even though they are not involved in the present dispute.

Last week the Post Office said 89 of the 162 main offices selected for the initial three-day walkout by staff had been able to remain open because of the efforts of managers, non-union staff and other employees who worked normally. But the union claimed there were long queues and considerable disruption to customer services.

Once the cockpit of industrial strife, the Post Office has for almost three years enjoyed an enviable industrial relations record, management said yesterday. The last serious conflict was in September 1988, with a national postal strike over the use of casual staff and the payment of bonuses to new recruits in London and the South-East. The two-week stoppage created a backlog of more than 150 million items and enormous hardship for customers.

## Walton mourns MP who cared

By ALAN HAMILTON

ERIC Hefter's funeral will take place on Monday at a crematorium at Anfield in north Liverpool, in the heart of the constituency that yesterday mourned his passing and which he snatched from the Tories in 1964. During his 27 years as MP, he turned it into one of the most impregnable Labour strongholds in the country with a majority of more than 23,000.

Hefter, who died on Monday aged 69, was the third most famous institution in Walton, the other two being the city's rival football grounds of Anfield and Goodison Park.

Lying two miles north of the city centre up the Scotland Road, Walton is one of the most populous seats in the country, its 72,773 voters tightly packed into pre-war redbrick terraces and great swathes of low-rise council housing, owner occupancy is well below 50 per cent.

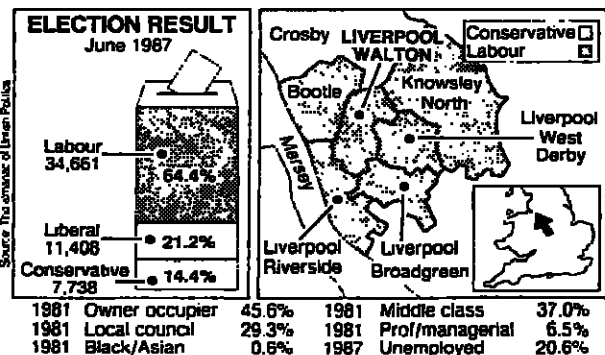
The A59 road to Preston is its main artery, lined from the Scotland Road to Queen's Drive with ramshackle parades of shops and small businesses, many wearing the tired and uncared-for look that reflects the run-down nature of the area. Hefter

overturned a Tory majority of 4,600 in 1964 to take the seat with a majority of 2,600. He increased his majority in every subsequent election, benefiting to some extent from boundary changes, but much more from great personal popularity and from the fact that during his stewardship Liverpool drifted into being the most socialist of British cities.

Walton has long had a tradition of radicalism. However recently the constituency has been associated with the rise of Militant, and is a hotbed of support for the far left of the Labour party, including the rebel city councillor Tony Jennings.

Jennings' breakaway group, calling itself Liverpool Labour Councillors, is planning to put up its own candidate against Peter Kilfoyle, the official Labour nomination. The group says Mr Hefter would never have wanted to be succeeded by Kilfoyle, a staunch Kincockite who helped to purge the council of its Militant faction.

Walton's voters spoke warmly of their former MP yesterday. Elsie Watkinson, aged 73, said: "I got the feeling that he really cared for us."



## Support for London's own voice

TWO-thirds of Londoners of all political persuasions believe London should have its own voice, either in the form of a London-wide elected authority, an elected mayor or its own government minister, according to the findings of a NOP telephone survey carried out for the *Evening Standard* newspaper.

A similar proportion believes that services in the capital have deteriorated over the past ten years. From a sample of 752 Londoners, with data weighted to the

city's demographic profile, 21 per cent said that things should remain as they are. The largest proportion, 44 per cent, favoured the idea of an elected body, like the Greater London Council. The idea of a government minister for London found favour with 21 per cent. Ten per cent thought the city should have an elected mayor, similar to those in big American cities.

Asked about services in the capital, 67 per cent said they had become worse over the last ten years. Seventeen per

cent thought they had stayed the same and 11 per cent thought they had improved. Of those polled, 43 per cent said that they would vote Labour in a general election, with 39 per cent supporting the Conservatives and 13 per cent the Liberal Democrats.

Asked which political party would best look after London's interests, 32 per cent said Labour, 23 per cent Conservative, and 8 per cent backed the Liberal Democrats. Three per cent backed other political groups.

Some senior members of the Conservative party have always been against Conservative organisations in the Province partly because it confuses any Conservative government's attempts to act evenhandedly.

Meanwhile, the delays over the talks looked set to continue after the SDLP indicated it wanted to see a shortlist of candidates for the post of independent chairman for the second strand of talks before it would embark on the first set.

## Warning to journalists on striking

MORE than 100 journalists at Haymarket Publishing have been threatened with immediate dismissal if they take part in further industrial action (Melinda Wittstock writes).

The journalists, who walked out last Friday on a one-day strike, received letters from management over the weekend telling them that even their participation in a three week-old overtime ban was now a dismissable offence.

Haymarket, the trade magazine group that is 51 per cent owned by Michael Heseltine, mobile home while the Chippendale's Circus was performing in the town. Police say Paul left home in Yorkshire to join the circus six months ago.

The NUJ said the letter was an attempt to intimidate people into accepting the ending of their union rights. "These bully-boy tactics will not succeed," Hashi Syedain, Haymarket's NUJ spokesman, said.

Media, page 11

## Not a day for mutiny as the Rolls-Royce big guns gather

By JOE JOSEPH

WATCHING a small investor trying to bully the board at a company's annual shareholders' meeting is like watching David take on Goliath: it is not that he has absolutely no chance of winning, just that the odds are stacked heavily against him. When the shareholder also happens to be one of 6,000 workers who will soon be sacked by that same company, the imbalance becomes poignant.

Rolls-Royce's 34,000 workers had all been sacked a fortnight ago, then rehired, then the sacking notices were clumsily withdrawn

on legal advice. But when plans to make thousands of jobs were not tears were shed and employees threatened to oust the board at yesterday's annual general meeting in London. Groups of workers in plastic bowler hats gathered outside the hall and moaned.

It did not help that Lord Tombs, chairman of Rolls-Royce, had just landed a 51 per cent pay rise, taking him to £180,064. He complained that it still left Rolls-Royce directors poor compared with other boardrooms. Lord Tombs said that the rise was triggered a couple of years ago and this year he was in fact taking a 10

per cent pay cut. That failed to impress those facing a job cut. But in the end it was no mutiny on the Bounty at yesterday's meeting, no pass-the-envelope-please suspense as directors came up for reelection. Sir Ralph was voted through by a fat majority.

It is not that the Rolls-Royce workforce did not have sympathisers at the meeting. They had plenty. But small shareholders and employee-shareholders seem to have a precarious grasp of how the City works.

Shareholders' AGMs are attended by bored housewives, retired accountants,

investors who read share tips in the Sunday papers, and a few City types. Powerful shareholders, the ones who invest billions for pension funds, dissect the company's results over port in the Rolls-Royce boardroom.

The AGM is for shareholders who will cross the country for free egg sandwiches. Directors at these meetings look as if they are slumming it for the sake of corporate democracy but are privately smirking at some of the naive comments from the floor.

One woman suggested that shareholders renounce their dividends for a few years so that all

employees could stay on the Rolls-Royce payroll, unaware that big institutions would soon shift their funds elsewhere. Another urged Rolls-Royce directors to devote all their energies to the company and not to take up non-executive directorships with other companies, unaware that these outside roles are far from taxing.

A man beseeched Lord Hanson to take over the firm. A Mrs Smith said: "The reason you're not selling more helicopter engines is that they are too expensive. There are helicopters flying all over the world. If you cut prices you'd sell more". Obvious, isn't it? By the

end of the meeting even Lord Tombs was in Wonderland. "The other man's grass always looks to be greener," he said solemnly. "Sometimes it turns out to be clover." What?

Then out into the Daimlers. One large limo was being chauffeured by a woman. "Here darling, where's your cap?" shouted a Rolls-Royce protester. "I don't wear one," she replied. "You need to, so you can do it when the boss comes," he sneered. "Balls," said the chauffeur. So much for worker solidarity.

Chief's pay cut, page 21

## Entertainer jailed

An entertainer and charity worker, Billy McCarroll, was jailed in Belfast for three years for reproducing a photograph of Loughlin Maginn, who was murdered in August 1989 by the Ulster Freedom Fighters, a loyalist group. McCarroll, aged 47, of Drumadon Park, Dundonald, denied making property available to terrorists.

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## Britain to keep check on dolphin catches

From MICHAEL MCCARTHY, ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT IN REYKJAVIK

THE government is planning the first recording system for accidental catches of dolphins and porpoises taken in the nets of British fishing boats. Fishermen's organisations will be consulted about the scheme during the summer.

The news was welcomed last night by British environmentalists attending the meeting in Iceland of the International Whaling Commission, whose scientists had given a warning this week that dolphins, porpoises and other small whales, collectively known as small cetaceans, are under threat around the world from accidental and deliberate catches, with some species facing extinction.

Environmental campaigners believe that the problem is serious off the British coast, but that the public does not

to be signed in Geneva in September by the Baltic and North Sea littoral states, including Britain, which will require the sort of recording system that the government is planning.

Last night Sean Whyte, executive director of the Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society, who is attending the commission meeting as an observer, said: "This is an excellent step, although not before time. We believe that accidental catches of dolphins and porpoises in British waters are a major problem."

"An increasing number are being washed ashore dead, particularly in the South-West and Cornwall. Fishermen have told us that they are often caught in nets and dumped overboard but no one wants to report it for fear of losing their place on the boat. Fishermen in general fear reporting these catches for fear of adverse criticism, but we hope they will co-operate with this new scheme. This is a great step forward."

On the higher profile issue of whaling, Iceland has threatened to leave the commission unless it gets approval for resuming commercial whaling. "Unless the commission is prepared to take seriously its responsibilities, [Icelanders] will have to look elsewhere in order to live up to their commitment to co-operate within an appropriate international organisation," Iceland's fisheries minister, Thorsteinn Pálsson, said.

The commission is unlikely to grant permission until it has approved a new whale-management plan. It is considering five alternatives.

Leading article, page 15



Curry: scheme requires fishermen's co-operation

realise this because there is virtually no official information on the subject. Dolphin and porpoise catches in British waters are not subject to any systematic recording system.

Last year the environment department set up a scheme to record all beach strandings of small cetaceans and to analyse their bodies later, but the system is designed to look for evidence of pollution rather than death by entanglement in nets.

Now the agriculture and fisheries ministry is to ask its regional fisheries inspectors to make detailed records of all dolphin and porpoise catches in British waters. The scheme, which is being drawn up by the fisheries minister David Curry, will require the co-operation of fishermen to report such catches and the government is anxious that this should be obtained by goodwill. Mr Curry will be writing shortly to the National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations and the Scottish Fishermen's Organisation to ask for their comments.

The impetus for the scheme is an agreement on small cetacean conservation likely



Past glories: the train hauled by the Duke of Gloucester leaving Settle station for Carlisle yesterday, watched by enthusiastic crowds

## Settle railway campaigners switch tracks

By RONALD FAUX

AMID clouds of steam and a strong scent of burning coal, Settle to Carlisle railway campaigners yesterday launched the next stage of their plan to preserve the line.

The Duke of Gloucester, in its day regarded as the ultimate locomotive, heaved a long train of Pullman coaches filled with local dignitaries, politicians and campaigners into Carlisle to mark the launch of the Settle and Carlisle Railway Trust. Having saved one of Britain's most scenic lines from closure, the campaign will now turn its attention to restoration at a possible cost of £4 million over the next few years.

The launch was auspiciously timed, for even as the duke thundered down the line, Mr Malcolm Rifkind, transport secretary, was announce-

ing that the national rail system was to be opened to private enterprise. The trust sees nothing but advantage in that development and plans to form a development company to encourage new industry into the towns served by the line.

"A railway line is only as successful as the community it serves," one official said, although the Victorian railway

architecture and the line alone attracted thousands of sight-seers every time a steam train whistled past. The spotters were there yesterday, moorland and marsh bristling with camera tripods and every bridge lined by spectators. The Duke of Gloucester did not disappoint, breasting the long drag to Blea Moor in clouds of steam and exploding from cuttings and tunnels with a

long, mournful and evocative siren.

Since the days when the line was due to be axed and the campaign began, British Rail has increased services from two to five a day and passenger numbers have increased five-fold. But at Settle yesterday hundreds of potential passengers were unable to travel because the scheduled two-coach sprinter service ar-

rived empty but with every seat reserved. One friend of the Settle-Carlisle Line declared: "No wonder the line was not viable when, like today, you have hundreds of people keen to travel and nothing for them to travel on apart from trains apparently filled with ghosts."

Road-rail revolution, page 6  
Hope for railways, page 14  
Leading article, page 15

## Criticism of hawks by Chief Rabbi

By RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

THE Chief Rabbi, Lord Jakobovits, last night criticised religious parties in Israel for hawkishness and urged religious leaders worldwide to speak out more forcefully against the arms trade.

In a speech accepting the £410,000 Templeton Prize, religion's equivalent of the Nobel Prize, Lord Jakobovits praised Zionism for adhering to its Biblical roots. He noted conflicts in Northern Ireland and the Middle East as results of religious zealotry. "As further examples, I am bound to include the hawkishness of religious parties in Israel, and on a different level the offensive campaigns of aggressive evangelism."

He criticised the "pronounced pacifism amounting to craven appeasement among many religious leaders and groupings". By arousing the world's conscience about the evils of the arms trade, religious leaders "would do more to preserve human life than umpteen appeals for food or money to relieve starvation".

Speaking in Vancouver, Lord Jakobovits, who retires this autumn as Chief Rabbi of Great Britain and the Commonwealth, said the misfortunes of religion since the second world war were without precedent. "Pressed from opposite sides, religion was caught in a vice which nearly strangled it, in the East by militant atheism and in the West by equally godless materialism."

## HOW TO ARGUE WITH A DOT MATRIX



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## Snacking: the crunch is three packets a week

Sales of snacks could reach £4.5bn by 2001. Nigel Hawkes and Nick Nuttall study their worth

NUTRITION experts were yesterday reluctant to dismiss snack foods as worthless. Some, including the often-maligned potato crisp, are quite nutritious, although not a substitute for real foods.

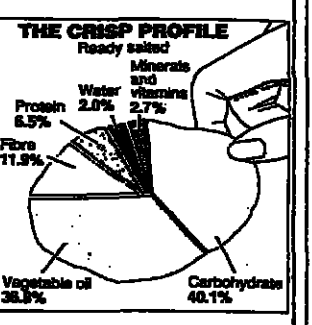
Tom Sanders, a lecturer in nutrition at King's College London, admits that the price of peace he lets his children have crisps two or three times a week. "Crisps give pleasure and I don't think they do any harm," he says, "though it would be

different if a child were eating two or three packets a day."

He believes that there has been a "jihad" (holy war) against crisps by healthy eating enthusiasts. "You have to look at the proportion of the total diet which the crisps represent. Some people say that you should send children off to school with a baked potato in their rucksack, but that is absurd. In any case, a baked potato with a knob of butter is nutritionally very little different from crisps."

Professor David Southgate, head of nutrition at the Institute of Food Research, agrees that crisps could form part of a balanced diet. "You need to focus on diet as a whole. Individual foods are less important."

Dr Sanders thinks that



biscuits are much worse, nutritionally. "We eat a phenomenal number of biscuits in this country, and they contain sugar as well as saturated fats."

Crisps: a much-criticised snack, crisps do have nutritional virtues. They are high in vitamin A and in potassium, absorb some vitamin E from the oil they are cooked in, and are low in sugar. They contain 37 per cent

Nuts: a good source of protein, the main drawback of nuts is that they are high in fats and calories. Peanuts contain 49 per cent fat, 24 per cent protein, and almost 9 per cent starch.

Corn snacks: many snack foods, including some aimed at children as well as upmarket products such as tortilla chips, are made from wheat or corn. Scampi Fries, an example of this type of snack, contain 13 per cent protein, 52 per cent starch, 26 per cent fat and 3 per cent fibre. They contain 496 calories in 100 grams.

Pork scratchings: the humblest of snacks provides nutritional value in keeping with its status. The protein they contain is, however, not nutritionally valuable, and their fat content is high.

## Crisp boom a flavour of things to come

By TIM JONES

RICHARD Horsnell, aged ten, spent yesterday trying to catch tadpoles, sublimely ignorant of the fact that the snack he packed in his bag is at the centre of the most uncompromising food war being waged in Britain.

Britons spend an estimated £1.3 billion a year on savoury snacks, a figure experts predict will rise to £4.5 billion by the end of the decade because of an increase in the child population and a steady trend away from formal meals.

Given a choice, Richard would have preferred pork

scratchings, the crisp pig skin. He settled instead for his second choice of cheese and onion crisps, a decision which demonstrates the surprising conservatism given the choice available at any petrol filling station, corner shop or supermarket.

There, he would have found a cornucopia of crisps and corn-based snacks.

Given their popularity, it is not surprising that the government has decided to fight a recent edict by the European Commission which seeks to ban flavoured crisps.

# First, they stuff the parrot. Then it dies.



This is an infant parrot; a dead infant parrot.

It's one of the four million birds captured each year to supply European pet shops.

It was taken from its nest in Argentina by local traders.

Too young to feed itself, a mixture of maize and water was stuffed down its throat via a plastic squeeze bottle.

It choked to death and joined scores of other young birds in the trash can.

Its death was unremarkable. Three-quarters of the wild birds captured for the pet shop trade never make it into a cage.

They die in their thousands at every stage of their journey.

Recently the RSPCA commissioned the Environmental Investigation Agency (EIA) to prepare a report on the trade in wild and exotic birds.

Their findings reveal a trade that

is as cruel as it is unnecessary.

In Senegal, they commonly use nets to trap the birds.

A decoy bird, its wing-tips hacked off with a machete, is left to flutter helplessly by the net. Its presence attracts the next cash crop.

Cynical dealers in Argentina are known to push a hot wire down a parrot's throat to puncture its gullet.

The bird will die a slow and painful death, but not before its new owner becomes attached to it and ready to buy a replacement.

## What can you do?

The RSPCA and the EIA want a complete ban on the wild bird trade.

It's a sadistic business that's making some people very rich. (A pair of Hyacinth Macaws, for example, can sell for £25,000 in Europe.)

It is also making some people very angry.

Brazil, Bolivia and Paraguay have banned the trade in wild birds.

110 countries have signed a convention to limit the trade in endangered species.

But these initiatives aren't enough. Nothing less than a total ban will be effective.

Ruthless dealers find it easy to avoid the restrictions and licensing schemes.

We need to put our case to the European Commissioner for the Environment and we need your assistance.

Ring 0800 400 478 and we will send you a free action pack that shows you how to help in this campaign.

Do it soon.

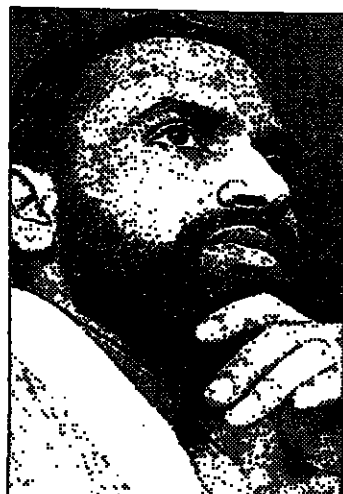
If ever our feathered friends needed friendship, it's now.



**Ban the trade, save the birds.**



## Political victims caught in drive against bogus asylum seekers



Rasanyayagam in London last week: "It was an impossible situation [in Sri Lanka], to be a marked man by both sides"

WHEN Raja Rasanyayagam says that he is a marked man, it is difficult to believe he is exaggerating. The scars on his right arm, where a bullet fired by a Sri Lankan soldier pulverised his elbow, are still visible, and the bomb attack on the Tamil political centre in Madras from which he escaped is well documented.

Four years later, however, the Home Office continues to deny that this soft-spoken Tamil is a political refugee. Organisations representing refugees believe Mr Rasanyayagam's story says far more about Britain's approach to asylum seekers than does the picture painted by ministers who argue that an essentially fair system of refugee determination is being swamped by bogus applications.

In a few weeks, ministers are to announce measures designed to

### Quentin Cowdry reports on one man's four-year fight to prove he is a genuine refugee

reduce the number of spurious claims. The drive comes after a significant increase in numbers seeking asylum in western Europe. Last year, 30,000 claims were lodged with the Home Office, double the 1989 total. The figure could be 50,000 this year.

In Britain, about a third of applicants are judged to be refugees as defined by the United Nations. Bodies such as the Refugee Council, based in London, and Amnesty International are appalled by promises of a brisker determination process because they believe the

present regime is already unnecessarily restrictive. Cases such as that of Mr Rasanyayagam undoubtedly provide ministers with some difficulty.

During the late 1980s, when he was a leading spokesman for the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, the main Tamil separatist group, he was a clear target for the Sri Lankan army. But he fell out with LTTE's leadership in 1985 and had to hide in the jungle, fearing reprisals by either government or anti-government forces.

"It was an impossible situation, to be a marked man by both sides," he says. He was given a false passport in early 1987 and put on a flight to Britain. His asylum application had been rejected and he had been locked up in a detention centre within 24 hours of arriving at Heathrow. Only six months later, after

several interviews with immigration officials, was he released and granted temporary admission. Mr Rasanyayagam, aged 31, lives in a council flat in Lewisham, south London, and is studying for a degree in sociology.

Of the 9,660 asylum decisions in 1989 reached by the Home Office, 3,045, or 32 per cent, resulted in grants of full refugee status. 3,655 in grants of "exceptional leave to remain" (ELR) and 960, or 10 per cent, in refusal. Applicants are given ELR when officials consider they do not strictly fit the UN definition of a refugee but believe they should be allowed to stay for four years on humanitarian grounds. The vast bulk are eventually upgraded to refugees, enabling them to bring in their dependants.

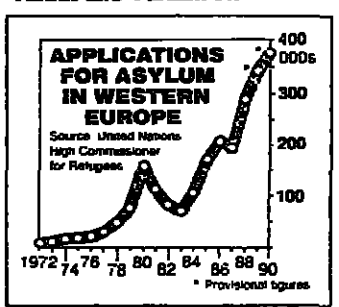
Alf Dubbs, director of the British Refugee Council, says: "Too many people are being

given ELR when they should have got full status. Some genuine refugees are not even getting ELR." His view is shared by the Medical Foundation for the Care of Victims of Torture. It provided *The Times* with case studies in which people had been refused refugee status in spite of having suffered horrific torture.

They included the African villager whom soldiers had stabbed repeatedly and given electric shocks. Antonia Hunt, of the foundation, says: "The government claims many of the applicants are purely economic migrants. Nobody would dispute that some are. But ministers must also ask themselves why it is that most applicants come from countries which we know have a poor human rights record. Why was it, for instance, that large numbers of Turkish Kurds sought asylum in Britain in 1989;

but not large numbers of other ethnic groups from Turkey?"

● The graphic below indicates the pattern of refugee flow: 1988: Military coup in Turkey; tightening of West German immigration controls. 1988: First big exodus of Tamils. 1988: Large outflows of Poles, Yugoslavs and Turkish Kurds. 1989: New exodus of Sri Lankan Tamils and Turkish Kurds.



## Parents are urged to give pre-school reading help

By DAVID TYTLER, EDUCATION EDITOR

PARENTS should do more to help their children to read before they begin school, head teachers said yesterday. They claimed that too many children spend too much time watching television and not enough time on books.

"It is impossible to deliver the national curriculum if vast numbers of children have to be taught to read from scratch, whatever the reason," David Hart, general secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers, said. Less than 5 per cent of new pupils could read at 65 per cent of 636 schools surveyed, according to a report published yesterday by the association.

Mr Hart said that it was essential for nursery education to be made available for all three and four-year-olds and for parents to do more to help their children. "If the government is serious about nine foundation subjects being taught they will have to address the issue," he said. "How can schools be expected to teach effectively if a vast proportion of those children coming into them are not able to read?"

"The government should spend as much time in training parents as they have in educating them in their rights to choose schools and to be governors. We have to educate parents as to what they can expect of their own children, to know what they are capable of doing with their support and in their own time. If parents make children aware of the joys of reading, the value of books, that will be a quantum leap."

Willy Slavin, headmaster of a junior school in Cumbria, said that many children spent too much time watching tele-

vision indiscriminately and were growing up in a less literate environment, which did not help them to read. "The influence of television must not be overstated, but many children have televisions and videos in their bedrooms and watch the soaps rather than programmes like *Blue Peter*," he said.

The association's reading survey showed that head teachers shared the concern of an all-party committee of MPs that the introduction of a national curriculum was reducing the time teachers could spend teaching reading.

The association also echoed the MPs' fears about the quality of teacher training, showing that one in four head teachers believed it was inadequate. Sonia Pollock, headmistress of an inner London primary school, said: "Ideas have moved on, but it seems that the colleges have not moved on quite as fast and we are looking carefully at the recent relevant experience of teacher trainers."

The report said that the quality of reading in schools should be monitored. It was not enough to leave it to the controversial national curriculum tests being introduced for seven-year-olds.

The future of all tests in mathematics, English and science, known officially as standard assessment tasks, will be debated later this week at the association's annual conference, which opens today in Scarborough.



Calm in a storm: Wytham Abbey yesterday. Will a conversion into 12 flats mean that Oxford University has broken its commitment to preserve the abbey's character?

## German colleges behind British in some areas

By JOHN O'LEARY, HIGHER EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH further-education colleges have a number of advantages over their German equivalents in spite of the high reputation of provision for Germans from the age of 16, school inspectors reported yesterday.

A team from the schools inspectorate visited Germany last summer to examine the system of vocational education and training, which is widely regarded as the model for the government's attempts to raise the status of vocational education in Britain.

Their report suggests that, although the German system is superior, few of its characteristics would transfer easily to Britain. The inspectors noted a number of areas in which British colleges were ahead. Few German colleges, or *Berufsschulen*, had central libraries, for example, and the

one visited was small and had restricted study space. A much lower proportion of the staff than in Britain had recent industrial experience, there was little use of project work, and general courses tended not to be sufficiently challenging.

The advantages of the German system lay primarily in its clarity, as well as in the attitudes of employers and the legal framework, which ensured that young people continued to receive some education or training at least until the age of 18, and made qualifications compulsory for the providers of public services.

The inspectors found that German employers were willing to pay for training and to take on more apprentices than they needed. The report found that there was greater parity of

esteem between vocational and academic education in Germany, but this was due partly to the status accorded to the qualification of master craftsman, which has no equivalent in Britain.

Aspects of vocational education and training in the Federal Republic of Germany (Stationery Office, £6.50).

## Abbey flats plan attacked

By JOHN YOUNG

CONSERVATIONISTS have attacked plans to convert the grade one listed Wytham Abbey into 12 flats.

Critics say that Oxford University has broken faith with the abbey's former owner who gave the building to the university subject to certain conditions.

The university has disclosed plans to sell a 125-year lease on the building to Michael Stewart, a science fiction writer who lives in the abbey gatehouse. Mr Stewart plans

to renovate the building and convert it into flats.

Dame Penelope Jessel, of the Oxford Civic Society, is concerned that the proposals might not be in keeping with the wishes of the former owner, Michael Fennell.

A university spokesman said that in 1959, after Mr Fennell's widow died, the abbey was handed over to a developer on a 21-year lease.

In 1981 it was taken back and found to be in poor condition. It had been decided that the best way to ensure that the

building was properly restored was to sell a long lease to somebody able to undertake the work.

Although it would be divided into flats, the partitioning would be more sensitive than before. Uses for the building as part of the university had been considered, but it was too far from the city for these to be practicable, the spokesman said.

In 1943 *The Times* said that conditions had been attached to the gift and sale to preserve its character.

## Baby found dead in plastic bag

Police were yesterday searching for a mother whose two-week-old baby was found dead in a plastic bag near Taunton railway station, Somerset. Officers, who believe the child was dumped several days ago, are trying to trace a girl aged about 14 seen on a footbridge over the line on Friday.

A post-mortem yesterday confirmed that the baby, whose body was decomposed, was that of a boy. The baby was found by train-spotters. The mother is believed to be in need of medical care.

### Port arrest

A financial consultant was remanded in custody for seven days yesterday charged with trying to smuggle three Asians into Britain. Ralph Kurt Spiegelberg, aged 32, of Hamburg, Germany, was arrested at Portsmouth.

### Amery wife dies

Lady Catherine Amery, wife of Julian Amery, the Tory MP, and daughter of the late Earl of Stockton, has died at her home in Eaton Square, London. She was 63.

### Stamp raid

A gang stole a safe containing stamps worth up to £100,000 in a raid on a collector's house at Kempston, Bedford.

### Fossil find

Workmen have unearthed a 300 million-year-old fossil of a giant fern at Aberdulais Falls, near Neath, West Glamorgan.

WHITEHALL BRIEF by Michael Evans

## Accountants battle to balance books of war

One of the unsung backroom boys during the Gulf war was a senior civil servant who was sent to Riyadh to keep an eye on spending, in line with the Ministry of Defence's "new management strategy", under which senior commanders are now responsible for their own budgets.

The civil servant was acting on behalf of Air Chief Marshal Sir Patrick Hine, who was not only joint commander of the British forces at RAF Strike Command in High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, but also, as a top-level budget holder, chairman and chief executive of Operation Granby Limited.

Britain's military effort in the war with Iraq did not fall naturally into the new budgeting structure, because it was not a cost-limited exercise. The official, a command secretary, was there to keep track of spending, without bothering the front-line commanders.

The new strategy (motto: *If it isn't prohibited, it's permitted*) was officially launched last month, although the change from centralised budgeting to local accountability has been rehearsed for the past three years.

Now, with the defence ministry no longer back-seat driving for every item of expenditure, commanders have the flexibility to spend what they want where they want, provided it is within their budgets.

Commanders-in-chief

such as Air Chief Marshal Hine, the commander of the British Army of the Rhine, or the chief of UK Land Forces, have to account for budgets of between £600 million and £1.5 billion. Lower-level budget holders, such as army district commanders, are responsible for about £200 million.

The strategy is the son of executive responsibility budgets, which were introduced when Michael Heseltine was defence secretary. But under the tutelage of Sir Michael Quinlan, the permanent under-secretary, the new system is supposed to be an all-embracing structure which should transform the running of the services and generate more cost-effective management.

Commanders and civilian budget holders have about £14 billion to spend between them. "This is not a pot of gold for them," one official commented. "they're accountable for results."

The new management

concept was based on the premise that it was better for, say, a garrison commander to have his own budget than be at the receiving end of remote decision-making by some ministry department. It represents the most fundamental change in the management of defence since the creation of a unified defence ministry 27 years ago.

Ministry officials stress that the aim is not to inject an accountancy culture into the lives of commanders-in-chief. They are amused by a cartoon which depicts a soldier asking whether the accountants decide when to surrender. However, during the Gulf war, both Air Chief Marshal Hine and General Sir Peter de la Billière, in charge of the British forces from Riyadh, had their management men by their sides.

Those in charge of introducing the new system admit that commanders from the three services with no previous experience of balancing books have taken to it in different ways. "We have crossed the start line in slightly ragged order," a senior ministry official said. But so far verdicts from the military men on their new-style budgets have been favourable. "We expected some to say they didn't join the army to become accountants," one official said. "There was a bit of that to start with, but not any more." It will be two years before the strategy is fully in place.

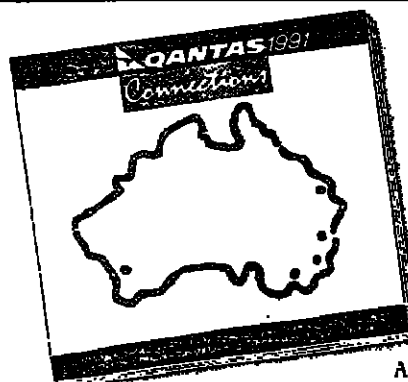


Hine: air chief marshal turned chief executive



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## RIFKIND TRANSPORT OVERHAUL

# Revolution in road and rail technology to beat congestion

By MICHAEL DYNES, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH Rail's monopoly of passenger and freight services on its own tracks is to be ended by an act of parliament, Malcolm Rifkind, the transport secretary, said yesterday. Announcing one of the biggest overhauls in transport policy for decades, Mr Rifkind promised legislation to allow private companies to run passenger and freight services in competition with British Rail, as part of a wider initiative to reduce congestion on motorways and trunk roads.

The announcement represents the first concrete step towards the government's plans to privatise the national rail network. In contrast to previous wholesale privatisations, it seems that the railways will be transferred

into the private sector in stages, possibly beginning with freight.

Declaring his commitment to end BR's monopoly, Mr Rifkind said: "We intend to allow anyone who wishes to provide rail services for freight or for passengers, and who can meet the necessary standard for safety and for competence, to be able to do so. They will no longer require BR's permission or be obliged to use their staff or rolling stock."

Because rail freight is generally uneconomic in Britain for distances under 200 miles, more than 90 per cent of domestic freight is forced to travel by road. But the emergence of combined road-rail technology, in which freight

vehicles are designed to be switched quickly from rail to road and vice versa, without the need for expensive handling equipment, promises to revolutionise the economics of rail-freight distribution.

In an attempt to encourage industry to make greater use of the railways, Mr Rifkind announced the tripling of the so-called "green grants" for private railway sidings. Since the introduction of the grant system in 1974, £70 million has been given to 200 companies to offset the cost of new sidings, removing about three million lorry trips from the roads each year.

Bowing to growing pressure to reform the grant system to take account of the environmental benefits of rail-freight distribution, the freight facilities grant will be extended to all companies which can demonstrate that new sidings will ease traffic congestion on virtually any trunk road. At present, grants for freight facilities are available only where congestion is reduced on urban and scenic roads.

The reform of the grant system "reflects the government's concern for the environment and its desire to alleviate the effect of lorries on localities that do not have the roads to cope with them", Mr Rifkind said.

Garry Turvey, director-general of the Freight Transport Association, welcomed grants procedure changes, but said they represented little more than "a flea bite" at the problem of congestion. "Even if double the amount of freight was moved by rail, it would still only be equivalent to two months' growth in car traffic. The government is moving in the right direction but it is still not providing the policy co-ordination needed to tackle congestion."

Main report, page 1  
Hope on the rails, page 14  
Leading article, page 15

## Pay as you drive gets new chance

By OUR TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

RESEARCH into the prospects for introducing road pricing in Britain will form part of the government's comprehensive study into urban traffic congestion, Malcolm Rifkind announced yesterday. The three-year research programme will examine the effect on traffic congestion, the property market, business costs, and public transport of charging motorists for using scarce urban road space in peak periods, he said.

The Conservative-controlled London Boroughs Association, which has been campaigning for road pricing for more than a year, welcomed the news, saying: "It may represent the only sure way of alleviating London's chronic congestion."

The decision is a reversal of an earlier decision by Cecil Parkinson, the former transport secretary, who ruled out

road pricing because of its costs and complexities. Mr Rifkind said, however, that the research "may conclude that road pricing is undesirable or unattractive".

Although road pricing has been heralded by advocates as a panacea for urban traffic congestion, it has had a mixed reception in the handful of cities which have experimented with it. In Singapore, which has had a primitive form of road pricing since 1975, traffic congestion has been reduced by 40 per cent. However, a more advanced system, involving the electronic monitoring and billing of individual car journeys, which was to have been introduced in Hong Kong in 1986, was rejected as a violation of civil liberties after public anxiety over the ability of the authorities to monitor driver movements.



Clear successes: Oslo (above) cuts congestion with tolls and Singapore police (top) monitor a restricted zone

## Red-route journeys 30 per cent faster

LONDON's experimental red route, the first in a proposed 300-mile network of priority roads, has resulted in a 30 per cent reduction in journey times, Malcolm Rifkind announced yesterday (Michael Dynes writes).

The journey times on the eight-mile route between Archway in north London and Commercial Road in east London are shorter and more predictable for motorists, road hauliers and users of public transport, he said.

The red route scheme was unveiled by Cecil Parkinson, the former transport

secretary, in January after a similar experiment in Paris, as part of a package of government measures tackling traffic congestion. Scores of police officers and traffic wardens patrolled the pilot route, with a ruthless clampdown on illegal parking.

The road traffic bill, which will give the government the power to extend the scheme across London, was making good progress through parliament, Mr Rifkind said.

The Transport and Road Research Laboratory says that the scheme has

enabled traffic to flow faster, reduces holdups, and eliminates some of the pollution generated by stop-start traffic.

Some of the extra road capacity provided by the London experiment would be used for additional bus and cycle lanes in an effort to lure people away from using cars, Mr Rifkind said.

Local residents and shopkeepers still complain about the dangers from faster traffic and about the loss of passing trade, and Mr Rifkind said that transport officials were examining ways of solving these difficulties.

## Train link option is studied by Toyota

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

TOYOTA, the Japanese car manufacturer, is studying the economic feasibility of establishing a rail link to carry some of the cars from its new plant at Burnaston, near Derby.

The project would be a perfect example of the kind of change in freight traffic for which Mr Rifkind called yesterday: a new plant under construction, with extensive road links and the potential for connecting to the mainline rail network.

Toyota's planned initial production of 100,000 cars a year is intended to go by road transporter. Road access was vital to the siting of the plant, which is on a 600-acre site alongside the A38 trunk road from Birmingham to Derby. A special junction on the A38 fast dual-carriageway is under construction, which will also form part of the M1-M6 motorway link.

With such factors in favour of road transport it is unusual for another method to be considered. But Toyota has also planned for a rail link, coming in alongside the finished-vehicle yard and connecting via a spur line with a branch running up to Uttoxeter and Stoke, and the mainline rail system.

Local environmental groups, fearful of the impact of the plant on the area's road network, are pressing Toyota to take the rail option. But rail construction is long-term work: the road junction will be completed within a year of starting work, but any rail link could not be finished before the plant's planned production start-up in December next year.

Toyota managers are studying the economic implications of a rail link, working out where their suppliers and finished car distributors are in relation to the rail network.

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## Peking demands right to veto Hong Kong loans

FROM CATHERINE SAMPSON IN PEKING

CHINA has demanded the power of veto over all Hong Kong government borrowing still outstanding in 1997, according to sources close to the British team whose negotiations in Peking recently ended in deadlock. The demand reveals the extent of China's ambitions concerning control of the territory before the transition of power.

A right of veto over borrowing would amount to having the final say on nearly all government construction projects, and in the eyes of the

British side to an unacceptable amount of control over Hong Kong's financial affairs. The veto on borrowing is just part of a package of demands which Peking wants Britain to accept before it gives its blessing to a new £4.5 billion airport project in the colony, say the sources.

In an unusually meek gesture, Peking thanked President Bush yesterday for his decision to grant most favoured nation trading status with no strings attached. A foreign ministry statement

described the decision as "realistic and wise" and said "the Chinese government would like to express its appreciation". China enjoys a \$10.4 billion (£6 billion) trade surplus with America, and would have suffered massively in financial terms had the preferential trade status been withdrawn.

Such was the extent of China's relief that the same statement made only a half-hearted complaint about the president's decision to block the sale of high-speed computers to China because of Peking's alleged missile sales in the Middle East. But perhaps its greatest relief was that President Bush chose not to put pressure on Peking to improve its human rights record by attaching conditions on the treatment of dissidents.

With Britain and China further apart than ever after two rounds of talks, the sources said the British and Hong Kong governments were trying to decide what action would have "the least detrimental effect". The choices appear to be scrapping the project or delaying it.

The airport was intended as a gesture of confidence in Hong Kong's future, and to delay or scrap it now would be to admit that the outlook for the colony is bleak. Without Peking's backing, private business will not risk investing in the project. Britain has already given in to many of Peking's demands, agreeing to leave \$10.4 billion (£1.7 billion) in Hong Kong's coffers in 1997, and to put a \$10.4 billion ceiling on government borrowing outstanding in 1997.

The details of China's demands have been leaked by the British side, which has been reticent until now about the sensitive negotiations. The sources are believed to be speaking out in response to allegations by the Chinese that Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, reneged on financial agreements already reached between the two sides.

## Last rite signals Congress battle

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI

THE ashes of Rajiv Gandhi were immersed yesterday at the confluence of three holy rivers, the Ganges, Jamuna and Saraswati, ending an official period of national mourning and signalling the start of a battle for control of the Congress (I) party.

Gandhi's son, Rahul, immersed the ashes to the chanting of Vedic hymns. Sonia Gandhi, the former prime minister's widow, looked on, visibly exhausted after a 20-hour train journey from Delhi to Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh. A huge crowd watched as rose petals rained down from a helicopter. Party leaders then headed back to the capital for a crucial meeting today of Congress's working committee, which will examine the leadership issue.

The movement that fought for India's independence faces a struggle to remain intact as it moves into the post-Nehru dynasty era. As the only national party, the outcome will have far-reaching implications for Indian politics. If Congress fragments, the principal beneficiaries will be hardline Hindu nationalist organisations that have grown in influence by playing on anti-Muslim sentiment.

While P.V. Narasimha Rao remains the likely choice as party president, at least until the remainder of the general election campaign is completed next month, he will not be projected as the prime ministerial candidate. He is a long-time Gandhi loyalist, making him acceptable to the current hierarchy but not to frustrated sections of the party kept outside Gandhi's inner circle. The old guard is now almost certain to be pushed aside.

There have not been internal party elections for almost 20 years, a direct result of the Nehru dynasty's determination to retain absolute control of the party machine. Congress is consequently all but dead at the grassroots. As power moves



Final farewell: watched by his mother, Rahul Gandhi holds his father's ashes before immersing them in the Ganges, as his sister, Priyanka, drops a garland into the water

away from Gandhi's old coterie, there will be significant political reverberations in Congress-controlled states whose leadership was invariably handpicked by Gandhi. Some Congress leaders in the states may seek new political alliances.

The party faces many crucial hurdles, not least of which is a determination by many important Congress figures that the Gandhi-appointed

working committee should not choose the permanent leader, since it would undoubtedly opt for one of its own. It was this committee that fought so desperately to persuade Mrs Gandhi to succeed her husband to keep the existing power structure in place at national and state level.

The election commission is under mounting pressure to advance the remaining days of

the general election, which have been postponed to June 12 and June 18.

● **MADRAS:** Police released a Tamil woman who had been held for questioning in connection with Gandhi's assassination. She was picked up on Sunday night in Cuddalore town, about 95 miles south of the Tamil Nadu state capital of Madras. Police now say she had simply lost her way. (Reuters)

## Rebels reject offer by Kabul

Peshawar — Afghan guerrillas based in Pakistan yesterday rejected a truce offer by President Najibullah's Soviet-backed government. The head of a rebel government, Professor Sibghatullah Mujadidi, told a news conference here that the guerrillas would consider a ceasefire under a transitional government but not while President Najibullah was in power.

The president made the offer in a speech on Kabul radio and television on Monday night. He said a United Nations plan to end the 12-year-old civil war must be given a chance to work.

"A ceasefire is not acceptable in this style," Professor Mujadidi said at his headquarters here. "It is possible only through a transitional government. If Najibullah is there, there can be no ceasefire." (Reuters)

## Wedding suicide

Delhi — A Sikh militant on the run from the police after a gunfight, Harbhej Singh, mingled with a Punjab wedding party in Sangha village and put on a bride's dress, *The Hindu* newspaper reported. He committed suicide by taking cyanide after the police discovered that there were two "brides". (AFP)

## Editor released

Nairobi — Gitobu Imanyara, a Kenyan lawyer and editor of the *Nairobi Law Monthly*, was freed after the government withdrew sedition charges against him, the official Kenya News Agency reported. He was charged in March with inciting Kenyans against the government in a leading article on tribalism. (AFP)

## Ho wife woe

Hanoi — Vietnamese officials have suspended Kim Hanh, the editor-in-chief of Vietnam's most outspoken newspaper, *Tuoi Tre*, over a front-page story saying that Ho Chi Minh, the late nationalist leader, had a wife. Journalists said reporting such a claim as true rather than a possibility was unacceptable. (Reuters)

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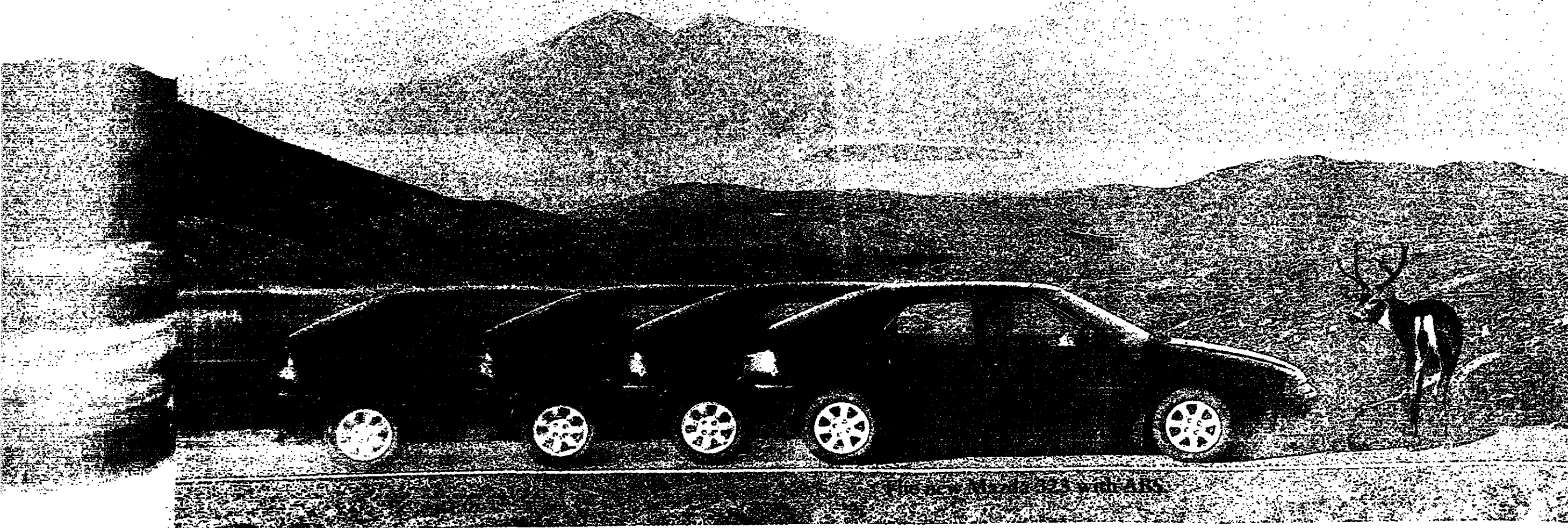
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## Rebel alliance prepares to take power after battle around presidential palace in Addis Ababa

### West acts as midwife at birth of new leadership

By MICHAEL BRYNOR, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

THE Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front could have stormed into Addis Ababa a week ago. Its decision to hold back says much about the influence America has been exerting behind the scenes.

The decision also points to the realism of the rebels' leaders who understand that, unless they take power with the tacit blessing of the West, the prospects of recovery for their exhausted and impoverished country are bleak.

American involvement in negotiating a "soft landing" to end the bloody civil war that has racked Ethiopia for the past decade has been considerable. Washington's emissaries tried for more than a year to persuade former President Mengistu to moderate his marxism, with little success.

They kept a close watch on the various rebel groups and their erratic political affiliations. They played a vital role in negotiating a breathing space in the conflict to allow the evacuation of the Falasha Jews. And they acted as honest broker to bring all parties to London for the demarcation.

Strategic interests played a part, as Herman Cohen, American assistant secretary of state for Africa, agreed yesterday. Ethiopia, in particular the breakaway province of Eritrea, guards the exit to the Red Sea. More important was Washington's wish to see that the hundreds of millions of dollars donated by Western governments and charities in famine relief were spent properly. Mr Cohen expressed a universal frustration with the conflict yesterday when he said that money should be transformed into development aid.

The rebels and America wanted to avoid the bloody chaos that marked the collapse of embattled governments in Somalia and Liberia. Washington therefore has urged the insurgents to be magnanimous: to cease hostilities, avoid wholesale reprisals, include political groups that have not been among the combatants, recognise the need for self-determination in Eritrea and set up a broad-based government.

That has meant that America has had to teach some rapid facts of life to groups such as the Tigrayan Liberation Front, whose naive stalinism meant that it took Albania as the only acceptable political model. The Americans have also made clear that Western aid will depend entirely on progress towards democracy. "No democracy - no co-operation" was Mr Cohen's message yesterday.

The new government needs the cash. Without a huge injection of Western aid, accompanied by urgent famine relief, the fissiparous coalition will be overwhelmed by accumulated problems. It needs money to buy time and promote stability. It needs to win the trust of battered peasants and suspicious tribesmen whose traditional feuds may well erupt again.

The Eritrean People's Revolutionary Democratic Front can no longer play off East against West: the Soviet Union has no money and no interest in propping up any regime after its disastrous involvement with President Mengistu.

America has moved adroitly to keep abreast of the rapidly changing situation. It has also been lucky that the final collapse came as the talks were in progress. By sanctioning the entry of the Ethiopian front into the capital, America made a virtue out of *Realpolitik*, winning the goodwill of the former government, as an equal partner in the talks far from the heat of the fighting, to surrender power with some semblance of face.

America knows that it cannot control events on the ground, but international opinion will be a forceful influence. The Ethiopian front has been put on notice that the world is watching.

The danger now is that the victorious group will ignore those allied in the fight against the Mengistu government. Already tensions are said to be growing between the Ethiopian front and the Eritrean front, who feel excluded from the victory.

Yesterday Mr Cohen praised the Ethiopian front's leaders' record for moderation in the territory it has so far captured. The West, he added, would make allowances for the years of chaos and suffering. But his message was clear: having invested its authority and prestige in securing an end to the civil war, Washington is not going to allow promises of democracy to go by the board.

Mr Cohen said that America supported self-determination for Eritrea. He refused to endorse independence, however, a policy likely to run foul of the new government in Addis Ababa and one that Washington itself would be loath to see as a precedent for Africa.

Leading article, page 15



Fighting spirit: Ethiopian soldiers, with guns blazing, jumping from a tank heading towards the presidential palace in Addis Ababa, which was surrounded by rebel forces

### Narrow escape as lone government soldier is forced from hiding place

Sam Kiley in Addis Ababa runs the gauntlet in the no-man's land between a sniper and rebel troops as the fight for control of the capital rages

I CREEPT through the smouldering grounds of Addis Ababa's presidential palace yesterday morning behind fighters of the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front who have taken control of the capital.

Picking my way past burning, unexploded ammunition and mortar rounds lying among ashes and twisted metal, I gingerly rounded the corner of a small corrugated iron first aid centre.

A body lay in the grass in the prone firing position. Beyond it I saw another figure behind a small camouflaged barricade. As I gently approached the figure it moved its head. At the scene of the battle I was aware that elements of the defeated force might be tempted to make a last stand. The presidential guard had yesterday morning already fought a hopeless engagement with the rebel forces, popularly known here as the Woyane. The figure could have been a sniper.

Holding my breath I crept back to a Woyane scout team behind me. I told the rebel

forces exactly where he was, but begged them not to kill him. As I pointed to where the beleaguered government soldier lay about 20 yards away, the Woyane forces loosened off a massive volley from three AK47 assault rifles as I crouched behind a wall. There was no movement and I assumed the worst. Three Woyanes moved around to the side of the building where I had spotted the suspected sniper. Shouting instructions to lay down his weapon at the government soldier and receiving no reply, they fired yet more shots in his direction. Silence followed. Then miraculously the soldier emerged with his hands in the air, the colour so drained from his face I thought he had been badly wounded.

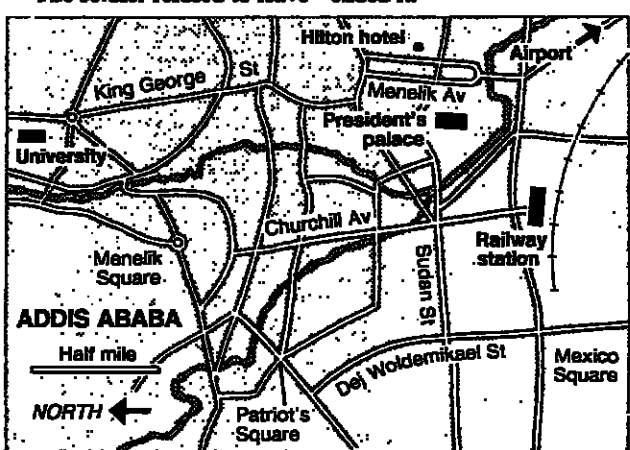
The Woyane unloaded the soldier's weapon and tossed it

his Woyane minders, fearing that he would not hold a second time. An inspection of the bullet holes left by their firing showed that at no point had they aimed directly at him - just close enough to frighten him.

His name was Hergar Gherhal. He was from Addis Ababa and aged 38.

He rose to kiss my hand in misplaced gratitude, in the belief that I had saved his life, when instead I had nearly ended it.

The soldier refused to leave



### Israeli reveals airlift build-up

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN JERUSALEM

MENTION the name Uri Lubrani in Israel these days and you can be sure to be greeted with sighs of admiration from a public that has come to regard the soft-spoken, middle-aged official as the embodiment of Israel's ability to accomplish the impossible.

A former ambassador to Iran and Ethiopia, who now co-ordinates Israel's policy in Lebanon, Mr Lubrani inhabits the nebulous world somewhere between the intelligence, military and diplomatic communities, and was therefore the perfect choice for the job of negotiating and executing Operation Solomon, the airlift of 15,000 Ethiopian Jews that was completed over the weekend.

Yesterday, he offered an insight into some of the episodes that characterised the months of preparation for the operation, particularly the negotiations with the tottering regime of the deposed leader, Mengistu Haile Mariam.

Mr Lubrani, who held several meetings with President Mengistu, recalled how the Marxist leader never conducted negotiations himself but "left the dirty work" to his assistants. "I have no doubt that Mengistu held the Jews to ransom: they were hostages in the true sense of the word," he said, describing the former Ethiopian leader as a moron with a warped mind.

Throughout his dealings with the Mengistu dictatorship, the Israeli side was under pressure by the Ethiopians to supply Addis Ababa with military equipment or money to buy arms, in return for the release of Falashas. "We were not going to give the Mengistu regime any kind of lease of life. That was the big difficulty facing us."

Once, in an attempt to win the regime's confidence, Mr Lubrani brought two businessmen to Ethiopia, including Sir David Lyons, to investigate possible areas of investment as a sign that Israel was committed to the long-term prosperity of the country and



Lubrani: Lebanon talks will be his next task

groom, we hear that the prime minister, the former foreign minister, Tsefaye Dinka, is of the opinion that we should not let all the Jews out. He was thinking that he would like to have the process over-flow the London conference."

In the end, the problem was overcome by the payment of a bribe of \$35 million (£20 million), although Mr Lubrani refused to go into the details. With the Ethiopian Jewish problem now largely dealt with, Mr Lubrani faces what could be a more challenging affair: negotiations to free seven Israeli military personnel from Lebanon, whose release he believes will also trigger the freedom of Western hostages in Beirut.



Boy soldier: a young rebel riding on a captured army tank through Addis Ababa yesterday

### Girl soldiers swell rebel ranks

FROM REUTER IN ADDIS ABABA

PRETTY, petite and battle-hardened women rebels marched into Addis Ababa yesterday alongside the men, some after more than ten years of fighting. "Life as a fighter is good. I am happy when we are winning," said Abrehet Gebre Hiwot, aged 21, a foot-soldier since she was ten.

Guarding a city centre boulevard, Ms Gebre Hiwot said she bore no ill will towards the government soldiers she had just helped defeat. "I don't hate them because they are poor like me, because they are doing their job," she said. "I am fighting for them too, because they have to be free. They were forced to fight."

A teenage fighter, Werke Hailu, rested in central Meskel

Square alongside fellow fighters of the rebel Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front. "I have been with the troops since the start - yes, I have killed people," she said, giggling at the attention an interview with a Western reporter was attracting among her male colleagues.

Miss Werke said she had fought her way from Shoa province after the revolutionary front, a rebel alliance led by forces of the Tigray People's Liberation Front, launched its final offensive in February. She said she left her peasant family's farm near Mekele, capital of northern Tigray province, to join the liberation front when she was just nine years old.

As rebel recruits the girls escaped the drudgery of an Ethiopian peasant woman's life - one of childbearing, hours collecting firewood and preparing food. Not escaping all traditional chores, the estimated 15,000 women revolutionary front members often work as cooks.

But they are classified as fighters and issued with a Kalashnikov. They often advance with frontline troops. As a sign of their liberation, the girls cut off their traditional braids and wear their hair short in an Afro style.

Asked about romance in the ranks, she shrieked with laughter and hid her face. "I have found a boyfriend. We will settle and marry when the war is over... that's the choice of my boyfriend, too."

### Recession inspires rush to be a rabbi

FROM CHARLES BRENNER IN NEW YORK

ACCORDING to the ancient New York joke, a cry goes up in the crowded cinema: "Is there a doctor in the house?" A young physician rushes to the middle-aged woman and asks what the trouble is. She replies: "Doctor, have I got a daughter for you?"

Doctors still make desirable sons-in-law, but the comedians are now recasting the joke to replace the doctor with a rabbi. In a sign of the shift from the 1980s, students are turning away from the traditional fields of the law and medicine. Instead, they are flocking to sign up for rabbinical training, this year in record numbers. Most are from Jewish families, but many are converts attracted by a spiritual calling. At the Jewish Theological Seminary in Manhattan, admissions have jumped by two-fifths this year. At the Hebrew Union College, the increase is 20 percent.

"In a failing economy, where the law is overcrowded, where medicine is on its way to socialism, the rabbinate has become a competitive profession," Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg, a professor of religion at Dart-

mouth university, told *The New York Times* in a recent front-page report on the "rabbi explosion".

The churches in America are not noting such a great surge of applications. However, the press is full of reports of disillusioned people leaving careers in law, accounting, investment banking and advertising to train for the clergy or devote themselves to other caring professions such as social work or serving the poor and elderly. The highly regarded inter-denominational Harvard University divinity school boasts former bankers, lawyers and others among its student ranks. Last year, 70 per cent of Roman Catholic and Protestant seminarians in America were aged over 30.

Part of the attraction for the would-be rabbi is that material sacrifice no longer goes with the job. Because of recent shortages in the number of rabbis, the affluent Reform and Conservative branches of American Judaism are offering starting salaries that are competitive with those of the other professions. Graduates of the Jewish Theological Seminary, for example, can expect to receive starting salaries of \$60,000 to \$100,000 (£34,700 to £58,000), which are as much as new lawyers will earn from a good New York firm.

"There is always the possibility that this recession has something to do with it," Larry Moses, a director of the Wexner Foundation in Columbus, Ohio, said. "Maybe we are a stimulus in the shift to religious vocations and some seminaries, Princeton among them, are worried that they are being used as a resort for students frustrated at their failure in the temporal market place. But the universities are also reporting a swing of the pendulum away from the business and professional schools that fed the glamour careers of the post decade."

Students, some with established professions, are signing up again for studies leading to careers that were long out of favour, such as teaching, the sciences and journalism. The trend has been tracked by that reliable barometer, the advertising industry. In television commercials, those glossy corporate heroes in power suits have given way to more bohemian characters working in architects' offices, classrooms, and even in newsrooms.

As they always do, the trackers of the American

zeitgeist are homing in on that old stand-by, the baby boom. After having it all in the 1950s, rejecting it all in the 1960s and having it all again in the 1980s, the now middle-aged boomers are said yet again to be seeking the meaning of life. "I do not think God puts you on this earth just to make millions of dollars and ignore everyone else," a baby-boom property developer told *Time* magazine in a recent edition devoted to the "rejection of the rat race".

There are signs, however, that the corporate world is finding ways of coping with the new fashion for dropping out. For example, several Wall Street firms have adopted sabbaticals, an institution unheard of in American business life, to enable senior executives to do their thing and get it out of their systems.

One lawyer, for example, returned recently from a six-month stint devoted to learning to play Bach on the violin. And one of New York's heavyweight law firms has just welcomed back a partner who started training for the rabbinate and decided he was really a lawyer after all.

### Apartheid to be wiped off statute books next month

Gavin Bell reports from Johannesburg on the end of legal discrimination

APARTHEID will end officially in South Africa next month, although the government may have to bypass parliament to abolish racist laws which have been in place for almost 80 years. Moving a composite reform bill in the tricameral parliament, Hennis Kriel, the planning minister, said the abolition of the Group Areas Act of 1966 and the Land Acts of 1916 and 1936 would take effect on June 30.

The Population Registration Act of 1950, regarded as the cornerstone of apartheid, is expected to be repealed on the same date, which Mr Kriel said would be "a day of joy for the overwhelming majority of South Africans". Apartheid did not work, it was an experiment gone wrong, he said. To Jews from the right-wing Conservative party, Mr Kriel said: "Any person, any party, any leader who still believes that apartheid is the solution for survival is committing the greatest political lie and fraud of our age." He said President de Klerk had recognised that the ruling National party had been trying to defend the indefensible. The Conservatives accused the government of selling out

its own people in the heated debate which ensued. Ferdi Hartzenberg, the deputy leader, issued a warning that "nationalism will flare up as never before because their existence is under threat".

Provisions in the reform bill to allow communities to maintain "norms and standards" were sharply condemned by the Labour party, which has a large majority in the Coloured House of Representatives. The Reverend Allan Hendrickse, the Labour leader, said his party supported the abolition of apartheid, but rejected provisions which were aimed at preserving white privileges. His party was urging the government to drop the provisions, and would decide on Monday whether or not to support the bill.

Political sources said that if Labour joins the Conservatives in opposing the reforms, the government may be compelled to push them through the President's Council, the supreme constitutional body which is dominated by the National party.

Mr Kriel vigorously defended the proposals for maintaining community standards, saying they were for the benefit of all races. "Coloured people, Asians and black people are just as adamant to maintain standards." He said the bill specifically stated that any bylaw which discriminated on grounds of race, colour or religion would have no legal force. The introduction of neighbourhood committees to maintain standards was in line with legislation in Sweden, the Netherlands, and the United States.

The reforms will abolish residential segregation and restrictions on land ownership, but the government has ruled out any large-scale restitution of land and property to those forcibly removed under apartheid legislation. While pledging a "new" South Africa, Mr Kriel said: "We cannot start the world all over again. There are limitations to the practical and financial possibility of trying to rectify all possible mistakes made in the past."



# Nato ministers back transformation of forces in Germany

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT, BRUSSELS

NATO defence ministers yesterday gave the go-ahead to transform the 400,000-strong alliance armies stationed in Germany into smaller multi-national "crisis management" units. But the reshaped military presence will not be in place until after 1994 when all Soviet troops will have left Europe.

Tom King, the defence secretary, said the agreement now made it possible for him to push on with the restructuring of the British army. He said the number of British troops to be based in Germany under the new proposals would be about 25,000. Overall, alliance

forces in Germany would be cut by 22 per cent. Mr King will make "a fairly early" announcement about changes to the British army. "We've had this problem of not being able to press ahead because we wanted to stay in step with Nato plans," he said.

British officials said that the Soviet Union under President Gorbachev would never attack Nato. But the Soviet forces still in Europe posed a threat. Once they had left their garrisons in Eastern Europe, Soviet troops would only be able to attack through third countries, such as Poland and Czechoslovakia. "We will have to see how we can deter that sort of threat," one senior British official said.

The defence of Europe will consist of seven corps, made up of one rapid reaction corps commanded by Britain, and six corps to be known as main defence forces. Of the six main multinational corps, two will be led by Germany, one each by America, The Netherlands and Belgium, and another which will have rotating German and Danish commands.

In addition to the seven Nato corps, there is to be an eighth corps consisting only of German soldiers to be based in east Germany. Under the so-called "two-plus-four" agreements with the Soviet Union, this part of the unified country is essentially the national responsibility of Germany until the Soviet forces leave the region.

Britain is supplying two divisions to the rapid reaction corps, including an armoured division to be based in Germany. The attacks came a day after Spain's ruling Socialists confirmed their status as the country's leading political force in nationwide local elections. The bombs went off between 3.50am and 4.30am in front of the Spanish embassy, the Rome branch of the Banco Bilbao Vizcaya, and the offices of Iberia, the Spanish national airline. The attack against the embassy appeared to be the first against a diplomatic target in Rome since crude rocket-launched grenades were fired at the American and British embassies in June 1987.

The caller who claimed responsibility for the blasts said they had been carried out with the "assistance and collaboration" of the Armed Falange, a little-known new Italian guerrilla group. Police said they had no immediate comment on the authenticity of the claim. (Reuters)

## Basilica blast

Paris — A bomb exploded at the Basilica of Sacre Coeur in Montmartre, one of the city's main tourist attractions, damaging a bronze door near the main entrance. Nobody was injured and no group has claimed responsibility. Police said the bombers had scaled the 5ft iron grille that closes the entrance at night. (AP)

## Moscow bishop

Moscow — Tadeus Kondrusiewicz was installed as the first Roman Catholic Archbishop of Moscow for more than 50 years. He was appointed in the light of improved Vatican-Kremlin relations. Catholicism is strong among some minority populations in Russia. (Reuters)

## Fast food outlet

Oslo — A Norwegian suspect in a drugs case on his way to jail escaped in a police car when his guards agreed to buy him a hamburger, the *Dagbladet* newspaper reports. The man, aged 25, slipped free of his handcuffs and drove off after the police stopped to buy him the snack. (Reuters)



Cheney: wants Nato to remain as cornerstone

many which could be deployed with one of the main defence forces if necessary, British officials said. Mr King said it was possible that the rapid reaction corps could have a fifth division, provided by the Americans.

The lightly armed British division, which is to be based in Britain, will consist of the Parachute Regiment, an armoured infantry brigade and possibly 3 Commando Brigade, when not needed elsewhere. The brigade is currently helping to set up safe havens for the Kurds in northern Iraq. Mr King said this force was in line with the strategic reserve division envisaged under the government's options for defence.

The two other divisions of the rapid reaction corps will consist of an air-mobile division of Dutch, Belgian, British and German troops, and a division from Nato's southern flank, with forces from Greece, Italy and Turkey.

The ministers, in Brussels for a meeting of the defence planning committee, deferred any serious discussion about the future identity of the European element of the alliance: whether it should be under the wing of the nine-nation Western European Union (WEU), or the 12-nation European Community. Richard Cheney, the American defence secretary, underlined Washington's view on greater European integration on defence matters when he visited Paris before the Nato meeting. He reminded his French counterpart, Pierre Joxe, that the United States was happy for Europe to develop a common security strategy, provided that it did not replace Nato. The French, who are members of the WEU and eager to have an EC defence pact potentially rivaling Nato, "tried to reassure us", according to a senior Pentagon official.

British officials said it was uncertain how many more countries might join the EC in the 1990s. They admitted that the issue of European defence could not be avoided, but at this stage it was considered wise to steer clear of anything potentially factious.

# Superpower summit likely as treaty row nears solution

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

AFTER a 20-minute telephone call to President Gorbachev on Monday, President Bush yesterday expressed optimism that America and the Soviet Union could resolve their dispute over the Conventional Forces in Europe (CFE) treaty last November, paving the way for a superpower summit in Moscow this summer.

Officials at Mr Bush's holiday home in Kennebunkport, Maine, said the president pressed Mr Gorbachev to go "the final yards" so that James Baker, the American Secretary of State, and Aleksandr Bessmertnykh, the Soviet foreign minister, can announce agreement when they meet in Lisbon this Saturday.

The call was a follow-up to three days of intensive talks which General Mikhail Moiseyev, the Soviet chief of staff,

held in Washington last week and which went some way towards resolving American complaints that Moscow is trying to circumvent the CFE treaty by reclassifying units and equipment. The dispute has become a big irritant in superpower relations and is also holding up a treaty to cut strategic nuclear arsenals.

Mr Bush said he was "a little optimistic" as a result of Monday's conversation. Martin Fitzwater, the White House press secretary, said Mr Gorbachev had also been optimistic and commented: "Both presidents would still like to have a summit, and are working hard to resolve these CFE issues."

Mr Fitzwater denied that the two men discussed Mr Gorbachev's possible attendance at July's G7 economic summit in London, but said



Back in the USSR: Mrs Thatcher walking in the Kremlin grounds yesterday. She held talks with the prime minister, Valentin Pavlov. Thatcher's call, page 1

# Belgrade fails to end deadlock

FROM DESSA TREVISAN IN BELGRADE

YUGOSLAVIA'S collective presidency failed in its latest attempt to appoint a president yesterday when emergency talks, called by the Kosovo representative, collapsed because four members of the eight-man presidency refused to attend.

The representatives of Croatia, Slovenia, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Macedonia refused to attend the meeting, suspecting that it was yet another Serbian ploy to impose its will on the collective presidency. Stipe Mesic, who represents Croatia, should have assumed the post by an automatic rotation system on

May 15. But Serbia, backed by two of its provinces and Montenegro, ignored the rotating succession and blocked Mr Mesic's appointment, provoking a constitutional crisis and driving yet another nail into Yugoslavia's coffin. The four republics which recognise Mr Mesic as Yugoslavia's legitimate president declined to attend the meeting. The presidency cancelled the meeting because five members are needed for a

quorum. It rescheduled the session for today.

Serbia sees in Mr Mesic a man who would break up Yugoslavia. Serbia's headline leader, Slobodan Milosevic, insists on a centralised federation in which Serbia would be certain of having a dominant voice.

Mr Mesic has repeatedly said that Yugoslavia's only chance of survival is to be reshaped into a loose federation of sovereign states.

# Critics accuse Georgia leader of Kremlin bias

Zviad Gamsakhurdia's election as president of Georgia has brought him under scrutiny from those convinced of his connivance with Moscow. Bruce Clark reports from Tbilisi

THERE can be little doubt that most Georgians have, for better or worse, entrusted Zviad Gamsakhurdia with the task of guiding their beloved republic to independence.

His well-groomed, patrician features and world-weary eyes stare from every newspaper, every stone wall along Tbilisi's boulevards, every hotel lobby and every shop. The 87 per cent vote which he claimed after last Sunday's poll makes him the first directly elected leader of a Soviet republic and strengthens his hand against Moscow.

Charters of admirers cheer whenever his black limousine appears, while workers and farmhands have been showering him with declarations of support. At the age of 52, the writer and former political prisoner is perceived as handsome, learned and strong — qualities that are admired in a republic where the chivalrous values of a medieval Golden Age are still remembered. His sharp tongue and decisive style seem to offer much-needed security to a Georgia that is confused, not least over the disappearance of the niche of prosperity that it had managed to carve within the Soviet empire.

Why is it then that the fanfare of Mr Gamsakhurdia's election has been accompanied by furtive, sometimes desperate calls of alarm from many quarters, including Georgia's liberal intelligentsia and its rich patchwork of national minorities? At first sight, he should appeal to enlightened intellectuals. He was first arrested as a schoolboy in 1956 for distributing dissident literature. A revolt swept Georgia that year over the denunciation of Stalin, who was born there. In the late 1970s, he was part of a network of Soviet dissidents jailed for forming groups intended to hold Moscow to its humanitarian obligations

under the Helsinki accords. Through the 1980s, he published a stream of dissident literature, despite periodic confinement to his Tbilisi home. He was detained after the April 1989 killing of 20 Georgian demonstrators triggered a wave of anger that it still surging, and last year he masterminded a rail strike which forced the holding of multi-party elections, in turn propelling him to power as chairman of the legislature.

With these credentials there is a paradox in the fact that his critics, including many erstwhile allies in the independence movement, brand his government as philistine, illiberal and beholden to Moscow. The accusation of philistinism is the easiest to sustain. There is wide agreement that his chosen advisers are less impressive intellectually than those of another Georgian ruler, Eduard Shevardnadze.

Charges of authoritarianism and connivance with Moscow, redoubled last February when Georgian and Soviet forces made simultaneous swoops on a militia loyal to the national congress, a popularly elected shadow parliament which has promised to boycott mainstream politics until genuine independence is achieved. There are fears now that he will use his electoral mandate to finish them as a political force. "If all he does is arrest us, that won't be too bad," said one congress leader.

Mr Gamsakhurdia has threatened to confine citizenship to those whose families lived in Georgia in 1801, or to those who voted "yes" to independence.

Such outbursts might be ascribed to the hyperbole of Levantine political culture, but the Georgian leader's treatment of his opponents over the coming months may show whether such charity is justified.

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## Birds of prey usurp pigeon paradise

PARIS NOTEBOOK by Philip Jacobson

To the delight of French ornithologists, not to mention those responsible for improving the environment of Paris, several pairs of falcons are preparing to nest in the uppermost towers of the cathedral of Notre-Dame. Under the protection of the Hôtel de Ville, they are apparently flourishing on a diet of plump pigeons, occasionally supplemented by something more exotic that has escaped from the pavement market along the Quai de la Mégisserie.

According to wildlife organisations, other falcons may also be found settling in at Sacre Coeur, Saint Sulpice, the Eiffel Tower, even the Arc de Triomphe, evidently undeterred by the incessant din and fumes of traffic. And early-morning joggers around the lake in the Bois de Boulogne are convinced that a pair of kingfishers has arrived to compete with the anglers.

At the Paris office of *The Times*, we are awaiting a

sighting of the veiled beekeeper who tends the hives on the roof of the Opéra Garnier just across the street. By tradition, the honey produced by these hardy urban survivors goes to the young girls studying at the ballet school there, affectionately known as *les petites rats*.

With 11 surviving children to her name, Ginette Duclaux seemed worthy of the Médaille de la Famille, presented every Mother's day to those doing their bit to increase France's almost static and rapidly ageing population. In accordance with regulations, she submitted her claim to the mayor of her tiny village in the Vaucluse, pointing out that having had more than eight children she qualified for the golden award with its green and red ribbon.

Alas, Mme Duclaux had not reckoned with the meanness of spirit that permeates French bureau-

cracy at every level, weighing most heavily on the poor and those without influence. Although her application was forwarded to the local prefecture with a favourable recommendation, a pompous rejected her application as none of the children was born in wedlock.

No matter that they all had the same father, Pedro Ruiz with whom Mme Duclaux has shared her life for more than forty years. No matter that last October, immediately after the death of M Ruiz's first wife (who had steadfastly refused him a divorce) they married. The award on which she had set her heart, established in 1920 to boost France's birth rate after the losses of first world war, would have afforded her some recognition. Perhaps Edith Cresson, the prime minister of France, might take an interest in the matter.

Admirers of Inspector Maigret have established to their satisfac-

tion that the great French detective "lived" in three rooms on the fourth floor of a respectable, if anonymous, block at 132 boulevard Richard-Lenoir, not far from the Bastille. While the long-suffering Mme Maigret shopped for dinner at the market down the road, he would mull over challenging cases at the bar of La Parisienne, the brasserie downstairs.

The author of a new book on the life and times of the Commissaire M — as opposed to Georges Simenon, his creator — says Maigret as myth is far less celebrated among the French than is Sherlock Holmes of 221b Baker Street, across on the other side of the Channel. How else to explain the absence of a commemorative statue or bust of author or character outside number 132, not even a plaque, unless it is that Simenon's most serious fault was to have been born in Belgium?



# Tory press puts the squeeze on

The government is now getting lots of advice from traditionally Conservative papers — not all of it supportive. Charles Wintour reports

The *Financial Times* of all newspapers blew the whistle to announce the start of an open season for traditionally Conservative papers to tell the Tories where they were going wrong. The stark heading on its leader column after the Monmouth by-election said it all — "A government of amateurs" — and the text was no more comforting. "The Tories, perhaps exhausted by the events of the past two years, appear to be adrift, without an overall strategy, with not a clue as to how to bring their policies into coherent form."

The two Thatcherite knights in charge of the *Daily Express* and the *Daily Mail* knew where to point the blame. Sir Nick Lloyd in the *Express* told Chris Patten, the chairman of the Tory party, to "stop playing Mr Nice Guy and get stuck into Labour's front bench", while Sir David English in the *Mail* was asking: "Do the Tories harbour a death wish?", and suggesting they had been rattled by a brilliant Labour propaganda coup.

Of course this was the famous by-election leader accusing the Conservative candidate of nursing "the crazy notion" that two local hospitals should "opt out" of the National Health Service. Allied to Neil Kinnock's statement that NHS reform was the "central issue" of the Monmouth poll, Peter Mandelson, Labour's election strategist, successfully threw the Tories on to the defensive over an issue on which Labour commands greater confidence among the public. Fears of "privatisation", of a "two-tier health service", of huge job cuts, were skillfully embroidered and, despite belated efforts to explode some myths, the end result was a solid swing away from the Tories.



Division in the ranks: The *Sunday Times* joined the *FT*'s attack as *The Mail* on Sunday tried to defend

Since then there appears to have been mounting disenchantment with Mr Major's cabinet, culminating in an opinion poll which put Labour eight points ahead of the Tories. The *Times*, in a generally sympathetic leader, commented: "Mr Major started strong but tired early. He overworked. He worried too much about his image... Like many of his colleagues he found the glare of publicity dazzling and, when sometimes hostile, disconcerting." After noting that he had begun to refashion Tory ideology with a "less hostile, more creative approach to collective action by the state" it concluded that "the race for the next election could not be more open".

Three articles in this week's *Sunday Times* were less supportive. Michael Jones, the paper's political editor, mentioned that Norma Major had posed happily with her namesake rose at Chelsea, adding "but there is no denying that the bloom is off her husband's government. Worse, it is showing signs of mildew." He also quoted approvingly from an article in the *Daily Telegraph* pointing to an antiquated party organisation and the need for wholesale reform at Central Office.

On the same page Bryan Appleyard examined the government's sudden volte-face over dangerous dogs, first demanding time to study the issue and then suddenly requiring whole breeds to be eliminated. "Government triggered by the vagaries of every passing headline can only be bad government. By the end of the week Baker was up to his chin in the canine quagmire." Two pages later Robert Harris lambasted the luckless William Waldegrave for answering a television interviewer's question about why, if the NHS was

so wonderful, he had chosen to belong to a private health scheme, with the words "Why not?" Mr Harris concluded: "So we are left with ministers who seem to preach one thing and practise another, reforming great state institutions without themselves participating in them: a case of 'do as I say' rather than 'do as I do'. It is not an attractive rallying cry for a fourth election."

Inside the *Sunday Telegraph* two reporters revealed that Tory strategists were "planning a relaunch of the Tory party's image to bring it more closely into line with the style and personality of Mr Major". The front page of the same paper painted a little more gloss on the premier's battered image. "Major takes tough line on charter" was the story which stated that the premier had rejected all proposals from his cabinet colleagues for inclusion in the planned citizens' charter. "Their suggestions have so far failed to match his radical ideas for improving public services."

Another sign of the Conservative counter-offensive could be seen in *The Mail* on Sunday with its front-

A POSTER advertisement in New York for Mr Levy's rye bread gave Michael Freedland the title for his Jewish affairs radio programme. This week's *You Don't Have to be Jewish* celebrated its twentieth anniversary, and 1,200 shows, making it radio's longest running community affairs programme.

*You Don't Have to be Jewish* dates from when BBC Radio London was set up to investigate all areas of London life. It asked Mr Freedland, a freelance journalist and broadcaster, to put on a programme

## You don't have to be parochial

London's Jewish radio programme is celebrating 20 years on the air

about London's Jewish community. "I said no, because I didn't want my career ghettoised," he says. "I wanted to do everything from politics to show business."

Mr Freedland got his wish: his first programme featured Jack Benny talking about Jewish humour, and subsequently — first on Radio London and now on the commercial independent station LBC — he has interviewed every British

prime minister (he awaits John Major) and every Israeli leader from Golda Meir onwards. "The important thing is not to be parochial," he says. "I'm much more interested in Jews in Holland than in Hampstead."

In 1971 there was an agree-

ment between Mr Freedland and Radio London that the Israeli "problem" was not to be discussed but by the time of the Yom Kippur war, in 1973, the programme had become openly political.

"There were too many other programmes giving propa-

ganda to the other side," Mr Freedland says. "The Israeli situation is clearly not all black and white. I hope my programme gets people to understand Jews and what they think."

Joseph Millis, of the *Jewish Chronicle* (which is also celebrating a birthday, its 150th), says the programme is "constructively pro-Israel". With domestic issues, he says, "it debates thoroughly and is not

just the voice of modern Jewish orthodoxy".

The programme uses correspondents from around the world on a "very nice shoe-string budget" that includes funding through the Jewish Board of Deputies and sponsorship by a travel agency, All Abroad of Golders Green. The programme, broadcast on Sundays at 6pm, is thriving again on LBC after a fallow period tucked away on the largely music based GLR, Radio London's successor.

ROBIN HUNT  
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### MEDIA WATCH

#### Price for fame

WOULD-BE writers who despair of ever having a piece accepted, take heart — the Rome-based glossy cultural monthly *Wimbledon* says it will publish "anything at all", at a price. The minimum rate per word is 1,000 lira (40p), but Giorgio Dell'Arti, *Wimbledon*'s publisher and editor, says rates go up the more inept the article. If the piece is very good, *Wimbledon* sometimes publishes it for nothing. Signor Dell'Arti started *Wimbledon* 11 months ago as a "joke", naming it to reflect the "ping-pong dialogue" between publishers and authors. *Wimbledon*, which sells for 8,000 lira (£3.20), claims a circulation of 30,000.

#### All change

THE *Jewish Chronicle* has marked its 150th anniversary with a complete redesign and a new editorial approach which its new American editor, Ned Temko, has described as "a sort of glasnost". The weekly tabloid has opened itself up to debate. Four columnists, including a writer from

outside the community, will air their views on a rota basis alongside Chaim Ben-Zion, the paper's regular slot. The *Chronicle* has also initiated a readers' access column, which Mr Temko describes as being in the tradition of Jewish family argument, and there will be more modern typography and a clearer format separating news, arts and leisure.

#### On a dum-de-dum theme

FANS of *The Archers*, the BBC radio serial, will be able to venture to the make-believe village of Ambridge without using their imaginations. Two million guests are expected to turn up each year at Forever Ambridge, a theme park due to open in spring 1994. Jock Gallagher, the former BBC head of network radio, who was responsible for more than 5,000 episodes of *The Archers* as well as eight books about the serial, has joined Blackpool Pleasure Beach and d'Aragnan, the leisure specialists, to create the £25 million theme park on the edge of Milton Keynes. BBC Enterprises is to back the venture.

#### War of words

BRITISH foreign correspondents are sharply divided as to who had a better war in the Gulf: the "unilateral freelancers", or journalists stuck in military media response teams (MRTs). Among the testimonies of 22 reporters for an International Press Institute (IPI) discussion paper, Kate Adie, who reported for the 1st Armoured Division MRT, said there was "a good principled relationship" between pool reporters and the army, while Sandy Gall, who reported for ITN as a unilateralist, said: "It is imperable: it should be scrapped forthwith."

Rodney Pinder, a Reuters pool reporter, said: "The pool system... clearly did not work. It must be challenged." All the unilateralists criticised the military for doing nothing to protect them.



Kate Adie: pool fan

#### Award for young critics

THE Critics' Circle, the society of film, drama, ballet and music critics, is offering an annual £500 prize in memory of the late Anne Frankel, who wrote on film. Those under 25 whose film criticism has been published in student, local or national newspapers and periodicals will be eligible. The award was founded by William Frankel, the former editor and now chairman of the *Jewish Chronicle*. The closing date is August 31.

MELINDA WITTSTOCK

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These days you do not have to be needy to appreciate recycled clothes. Victoria McKee reports

## Second-hand roses are blooming

When Bernadette Valley addressed the Institute for Social Studies in The Hague yesterday on "eco-feminism" she was wearing a pair of television personality Winney Willis's old red shoes, bought for £7, and a black skirt and red jumper bought in a sale. "Who in their right mind pays full price for clothes these days?" she says.

Ms Valley — the founder and director of the Women's Environmental Network (WEN) — always wears "recycled or sale clothes", and runs clothing auctions to encourage others to do the same. "We've raised several thousand pounds from each of our WEN sales — three so far — with people like Pamela Stephenson and Winney Willis and Jane Asher giving us their old clothes to sell. More and more people are wearing old clothes, and we hold these sales not just to raise money for the group but to say 'this is OK'."

The market analyst Mintel agrees that second-hand is OK. A survey by the organisation has discovered that a substantial 30 per cent of those in socio-economic groups A and B buy from charity shops, as opposed to only 15 per cent of C1s and 18 per cent of C2s.

To some wearing second-hand clothes carries a social stigma. To those who buy antiques, wearing old clothing can seem a logical extension. The Countess of Woolton — the artist Sophie Birdwood — mixes Yves Saint Laurent with Oxfam because, "I love going round second-hand shops. I particularly like Signa (in London), and I sometimes go to Oxfam, where I got a wonderful knitted dress that I wore last year with one of my husband's jackets when I was pregnant."

"If I ever make enough money from my painting then obviously I'll splash out and buy something from Saint Laurent," she says. "But I'm not a snob about labels, and you can get things a lot cheaper second-hand. It doesn't surprise me that more people are doing it."

Many of her friends also shop in charity and second-hand shops, she says — such as the portrait painter Adrian Gill, who buys suits from Eat Your Heart Out and 20th Century

Box in the King's Road in Chelsea. "The very best place of all is at the Rutland County Show, once a year, where they have a second-hand clothes sale which is amazing county stuff," Mr Gill says. "I've bought dozens and dozens of suits that way. If I were wealthy enough I would have all my suits made for me, but as it is I can only afford to have one made every couple of years. But in second-hand shops you can get Savile Row tailoring for very little money. I've never spent more than £50 on a suit. Many have spent their lives in the House of Lords."

"Of course most suits in second-hand shops are from people who are dead; so you've got to not mind wearing dead people's clothes. I don't, any more than I mind sitting in their chairs, or sleeping in my grandmother's bed."

The author Margaret Forster was introduced to the joys of second-hand shopping by her elder daughter, Caitlyn. "She is now 27 and has never bought anything new," she says. "She is a jumble queen, whereas my other daughter Flora, who is 18, is the queen of Oxford Street and would never wear second-hand clothes."

"I'm far too fastidious to be a success at jumble sales, because I get slightly queasy at all those piles of things. So I started going to second-hand shops that sell restored Victorian and Twenties clothes. I've had huge successes — and so has Hunter (her husband, Hunter Davies). I bought him for his birthday a Fifties tweed jacket at a shop in Covent Garden."

"Flora thinks I should wear designer clothes. She says: 'You've got the money.' But I can't bring myself to pay £200 for something. It's not meanness, but I know that for a quarter of that price I could get something lovely second-hand."

The writer and broadcaster Dr Rosalind Miles and her children Helena, aged 24, and Conrad, 21, agree. "It started for me because I was given a lot of my mother's things and some of them were so well made that the fabrics and tailoring always seemed nicer," Dr Miles says. "Helena loves to buy old ball-



Bargain rails: Bridget Hutchcroft (right) of the up-market second-hand shop Pandora, with customer

gowns; we picked her up a marvelous one with a black velvet boned bodice and a wide froth of black lace for £100 — about a quarter of its original price. And Conrad is a keen browser among the second-hand shops in Oxford, where he's doing history at St Catherine's."

At Pandora in Knightsbridge you can buy a two-year-old Chanel suit, original price £2,000, for £550, and Bruce Oldfield ballgowns for £247. "You can quite regularly pick up Yves Saint Laurent suits for under £300," says the co-owner, Bridget

Hutchcroft. "When we took over the shop three and a half years ago it was still very much 'let's keep it quiet', and people were scurrying behind the rails so as not to be seen. Now, since we've moved to Cheval Place, the shop is much more open. Our business is better than last year — I've noticed that many of the ladies who'd normally just sell are now buying."

Leslie Durham, the trading manager for Oxfam's shops, is more cautious. "Our research — which was admittedly done more than two

years ago — shows a more even spread of customer than Mintel's," he says, "with more customers among the lower socio-economic classes. Perhaps the ABs buy more of our new items, such as Christmas cards."

Mintel stands by its statistics. Its spokeswoman, Margaret Rooke-Matthews, says: "Although we haven't done any previous research into this, every indication is that second-hand and sale shopping will continue to grow in popularity among the ABs."

## When yes and maybe mean no

A court case has reopened debate in the US on the murky issue of 'date rape'

Ever since William Kennedy Smith met a woman and took her home in the early hours of Easter Saturday, Americans have been arguing on talk shows, in print and around dinner tables about a topic that had been deemed taboo for the past two decades: when does a woman really mean "no", and can she be blamed for having sex against her will?

The murky circumstances around the alleged rape at the Kennedy household in Palm Beach have crystallised a pent-up resentment among many American men and women towards the stricter dogmas about sex preached in the women's movement, incorporated into legal thinking and recently broadened by "gender activists" in America's universities.

The *New York Post*, which comes close to being the voice of the working man, wandered in an editorial last week whether the criminal charge of rape should "apply to a man who has drinks with a woman, takes her home with her consent, exchanges kisses with her and then refuses to stop". In its now notorious profile of the Palm Beach woman, *The New York Times* dwelt on her sexual history.

Until the past few months, such an approach would have been dismissed as antediluvian sexism. Indeed, the Supreme Court reaffirmed last week that courts may suppress disclosure of a rape victim's

*'Romance is rape with meaningful looks'*

to learn the language". The more extreme of the college inquisitors take as their creed the doctrines of Susan Brownmiller and Andrea Dworkin. Ms Dworkin makes no distinction between love and rape. "Romance... is rape embellished with meaningful looks," she says.

The critics have focused on some of the shocking statistics claimed by the "date rape" brigade. These include an oft-quoted claim that up to a quarter of all women have been raped by the men they go out with. Ms Gutmann recently dissected the figures in *Reason*, a monthly magazine which describes itself as "libertarian", noting that 43 per cent of the victims in one study said they had not realised at the time that they had been raped. The women had applied the broad definition of rape, promoted by the new orthodoxy, to redefine as "criminal" occasions in the past in which they felt they had been coerced, perhaps only verbally, into having sex against their will. "Rape is being stretched to encompass any type of sexual interaction," Ms Gutmann said.

The Senate began hearings last week on a bill which aims to make the producers and distributors of sexually explicit books, magazines or films legally liable if a jury believes their material drove a man to commit rape or another sex offence. This would entitle the

victim of such an offence to win substantial civil damages against them. The bill, proposed by Senator Mitch McConnell, has drawn intense criticism from Hollywood and the publishing industry.

Some feminists have acknowledged that you cannot legislate the age-old game of courtship and seduction. At the same time, they say, any man with common sense can detect genuine refusal. The loudest advocate of the revised view is Camille Paglia, who blames women for failing to take account of the biological differences that make men sexually aggressive. "If rape really occurs, I'm sympathetic," she says. "But now they're saying it's rape if a guy makes a remark about your breasts."

Other feminists take a middle course. "Most date rapes do not happen because a man honestly mistakes a woman's 'no' for a 'yes' or a 'maybe'," according to Susan Jacoby, a writer and journalist. "They occur because a minority of men can't stand to take no for an answer... Real Men don't rape."

CHARLES BREMNER

## Paintings with no nonsense

IN A lifetime of 75 years Edward Lear produced 300 oil paintings and more than 10,000 watercolours. Yet in 1957, he was still described in an art gallery catalogue as "Edward Lear, the nonsense writer". It has taken almost a century since his death for Lear to be recognised as a painter. His champion over the past 30 years has been Vivien Noakes. This week she launches her book, *The Painter Edward Lear*, at the Fine Art Society in New Bond Street, London, where a private collection of his work will be on view until June 7.

Lear was a poet and painter, writer and musician. "He was also a marvellous teacher," writes the Prince of Wales in the foreword to Mrs Noakes's book. "Queen Victoria was one of his pupils... The sketches she produced were remarkably Lear-like." Born in 1812, Lear was the twentieth of 21 children. Bronchitic, asthmatic, epileptic and myopic, he made his early living as an illustrator of natural history, earning a comparison to Audubon. But at 25 he turned to landscape. He travelled extensively, writing to

Thanks to the efforts of one woman, Edward Lear's art now rivals his verse.



In the frame: Vivien Noakes with some of Lear's paintings

Holman Hunt from Florence. "I go daily to a villa near here... partly because I believe I can do the subject pretty well out of my own brains — placing vines and olives as they really are, and not calling in to my aid, broken pillars, sunset capitals and 15 ladies in pink and yellow satin playing on guitars."

"Lear never thought of himself as a water-colourist," Mrs

Noakes says. "The majority were done during his travels, to be used as samples when clients came to commission an oil." His patrons, he wrote, afforded him "a house, and a Ninkum of just 100£ a year".

In 1968 Mrs Noakes published the first of her studies on Lear, now the standard biography. "Being married to a painter," she says, "I was interested in putting across what a painter's life is like."

Her husband, Michael Noakes, has painted almost every member of the royal family.

In September 1984 she conceived an exhibition for the Royal Academy, where Lear himself had studied briefly. "My plan was that they should mount a century exhibition — he died in 1888 — and I thought four years would be long enough." In the event the RA asked her to organise it for the following April.

For the centenary of Lear's death, Mrs Noakes edited Lear's letters and masterminded his inclusion in Poets' Corner in Westminster Abbey. She organised the support of the Prince of Wales, Peter Levi, Sir David Attenborough, Sir Hugh Casson and "everyone I could think of who, for different reasons, each admired Lear". Mrs Noakes has been amassing copies of all Lear's letters, diaries and nonsense. "So the one big work I still have to do is a complete edition of his nonsense. Then I'll bow out."

ELUNED PRICE  
© Times Newspapers Ltd 1991  
The Painter Edward Lear by Vivien Noakes is published by David & Charles, price £35

## & BRIEFLY

### Mini game

AT MANY of the big cricket matches in recent weeks, demonstrations have been given by schoolchildren of "kwik cricket" — a scaled-down version of the game which is rapidly catching on. Like "new image" rugby and other mini versions of manly games. Details of the game and equipment (which is available from Lord's) can be obtained by sending an a.s.c. to the English Schools Cricket Association, 68 Hatherley Road, Winchester, Hants SO22 6RR.

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### Greener by mail

MAIL order catalogues on both sides of the Atlantic are cashing in on the green trend. In America, the latest products include yo-yos "made from recycled plastic" and a "Green Clean fruit and vegetable wash" for removing "pesticides, dirt, waxes, chemicals and bacteria from the surface of your fruits and vegetables" (both from Seventh Generation: Products for a Healthy Planet, Colchester, Vermont 05446-1672, telephone 0101 802 655 3116). In Britain the latest "Whole Thing" catalogue includes "Welsh volcanic dust" to use

in lieu of chemical fertilisers (£9.99 per 10kg drum), and Twizzlers: unusual pencils "mostly made from fallen plane and horse chestnut branches" gathered in London's parks, their centres drilled and graphite inserted (£1.99). (Whole Thing, 34 Market Place, Kendal, Cumbria LA9 4TN; telephone 0539 721922.)

V.McK.

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New York Theatre: in advance of the Tony awards, Holly Hill sums up the season on and off Broadway

## Cue the curtain-calls

As the New York theatre season rolls to a conclusion, most speculation over the destination of Sunday's Tony Awards focuses on two neck-and-neck struggles. Will *Miss Saigon* win the Best Musical award, and carry Jonathan Pryce and Lea Salonga to awards for Best Actor and Actress in a Musical? Or will homegrown product triumph, and the Best Musical be deemed Cy Coleman's *Will Rogers Follies*?

The British actor Nigel Hawthorne may be favoured to win the Best Actor in a Play award for his performance in *Shakespeare in Love*, the play itself (which has closed) will not be a contender for the Best Play. That is likely to be fought out between Neil Simon's dark and structurally fragmented *Lost in Yonkers* (it has already won a Pulitzer Prize, and has magnificent and possibly award-winning performances from Irene Worth and Mercedes Ruehl) and John Guare's dingy *Six Degrees of Separation*.

Both plays typify a season in which accomplished dramatists have set off in new directions, and in which there has been a plethora of unsettling, ambitious work. The season's final weeks have seen plenty of that. For instance, Beth Henley — noted for such Southern Gothic comedies as *Crimes of the Heart* — tackled the subject of 19th-century mail-order brides in

*Abundance* (Manhattan Theatre Club). The contrasting fates of a pretty, strong-willed bride and a plain misfit were not quite credible, but Henley's move beyond hard-boiled Southerners was laudable.

So too is A.R. Gurney's attempt in *The Old Boy* (Playwrights Horizons) to make his distinctive Wasp characters deal with homosexuality. A successful politician comes to his old school to deliver a speech, and learns of the suicide of the gay friend he once cajoled into a conventional life. In flashbacks to his schooldays, and a confrontation with the former sweetheart, the politician manipulated into marrying his friend, the action moves to an unlikely graduation day, but all credit to Gurney for airing more than skeletons in Wasp closets.

Some previously promising playwrights are still — as John Guare remained for more than 20 years — promising. Also at Playwrights Horizons is *The Substance of Fire* by 29-year-old Jon Robin Baitz, whose previous *The Film Society* showed exceptional talent. He has created an indelible character in the new work: a New York book publisher (about to lose his company to his commercially-minded

children) who is a Holocaust survivor still mourning its victims while treating his family with the arrogance of a Gestapo chief. Baitz's achievement is to make his publisher at once appalling, admirable, charming and even sympathetic, especially in Ron Rifkin's incandescent performance.

The first of two other promising playwrights whose recent works (both produced at the Manhattan Theatre Club) deserve mention is Keith Reddin. *Life During Wartime*, his best work yet, moves away from his previously self-conscious political plays to a social comedy, about a

*There has been a plethora of ambitious work*

home security systems salesman. The story is occasionally interrupted by remarks from the 16th-century theologian, John Calvin.

Richard Greenberg, whose *Eastern Standard* was a Tony contender two seasons ago, has now produced *The American Plan*, about a bisexual social climber. Greenberg's was the fourth play this season to create larger-than-life monster parents whose mistreatment of their offspring gave them the fascination of performing cobras.

To the extent that any trend is evident in current American playwriting, it is the expansion of the

ubiquitous family-relationship comedies and dramas to a specific social or historical context. The personal is seldom just that any more.

In Sam Shepard's first play in six years, *States of Shock*, at the American Place Theatre, a coffee shop may or may not be under wartime siege. A Colonel (John Malkovich) wheels on a disabled veteran, Stubbs (Michael Wincott), who may be the soldier crippled trying to save the life of the Colonel's son, or may be the son. Or is the Colonel the son? An ordinary couple and a waitress named Glory Bee complete the cast.

There are Shepardian arias on such characteristic subjects as torture and death, patriotism and individualism; a dance sequence for the Colonel and Glory Bee; a beating administered to Stubbs by the Colonel. Behind the cyclorama, there are drumbeats and silhouettes of battle. Shepard has combined his mangled myths about American history, his studies of family life and the poetic paranoia of his early work to mesmerising effect. Academics will have a field day interpreting, and audiences here will enjoy Bill Hart's crisp production, with Malkovich giving an unselfish, perfectly pitched ensemble performance to match Wincott's.



Unselfish: John Malkovich in Sam Shepard's new play, *States of Shock*, a mesmerising current New York hit

### BRIEFING

#### Wide screen

BERNARDO Bertolucci is certainly cultivating the epic sweep: the Italian film director's next assignment concerns the life of Buddha. Previous Western attempts to portray the philosopher have come to naught. Christopher Isherwood relied on a script for MGM in the Fifties; Bertolucci worked on another aborted project. The producer will be Jeremy Thomas, Bertolucci's partner on *The Last Emperor* and *The Sheltering Sky*.

#### Last chance...

PETER Hall's revival of Harold Pinter's *The Homecoming*, with Warren Mitchell as a snarling patriarch, has as much power to surprise and shock as his first production of the play, 26 years ago. Final performance at the Comedy (071-867 1045), is on Saturday.

REVIEWS, page 18  
Joe Jackson,  
Jazz and Concerts

## New fast lane for funding has an experimental air

Lord Palumbo is launching an Arts Foundation, with private patronage.  
Richard Morrison questions its aims

Lord Palumbo has said it before and will doubtless say it again. A lot of people have done very nicely out of the Thatcher years and it is time they "gave back to society a little of what society has given them". Today, the Arts Council chairman's perennial appeal for arty philanthropists to step forward, wallets open, takes its most definite shape so far. He launches the Arts Foundation, of which he is chairman and Stephen Bayley (design guru-about-town) is director.

Its genesis is revealing. Some months ago the Arts Council received a £1.1 million legacy from a Swiss banker. Palumbo decided (after how much discussion with his colleagues is not revealed) to use it to launch an Arts Foundation. This will tap individuals for funds, and will mostly support work of an "experimental nature by young people". The bold aim is to raise £20 million more in gifts from individuals. Palumbo's dream of a new golden age of private patronage to rival the 18th century would become reality. But what makes him believe he can prise open private purses? That question is best answered by a process of elimination. How else is "innovative or experimental" art going to happen, if it is not privately supported? The Arts Council is next to useless in this field, according to its chairman. Palumbo maintains that the public likes to be associated with success. Experimental art will, by definition, frequently fail. Hence, experimental art should be privately funded. What, then, of business sponsorship? Unfortunately, with some notable exceptions, commerce is rarely tempted by experimental art or unknown artists.



Bayley (left), the director and Palumbo the chairman

Will private patrons rush to finance experimental art? History suggests they might. Most great patrons pride themselves on being a style ahead of its time. As their hunches turn out to be correct, the artists' burgeoning careers can be watched with a sense of proprietorial pride.

Of course, critics of private patronage deride it as being demeaning: a harking back to the servant/master relationship that kept Mozart ranked below the butler in the Archbishop of Salzburg's household. That is nonsense. If anything, artists tend to treat patrons contemptuously, not vice versa. Nevertheless, the patrons are masters in one obvious sense: they decide how to spend their own money. And this is the chief

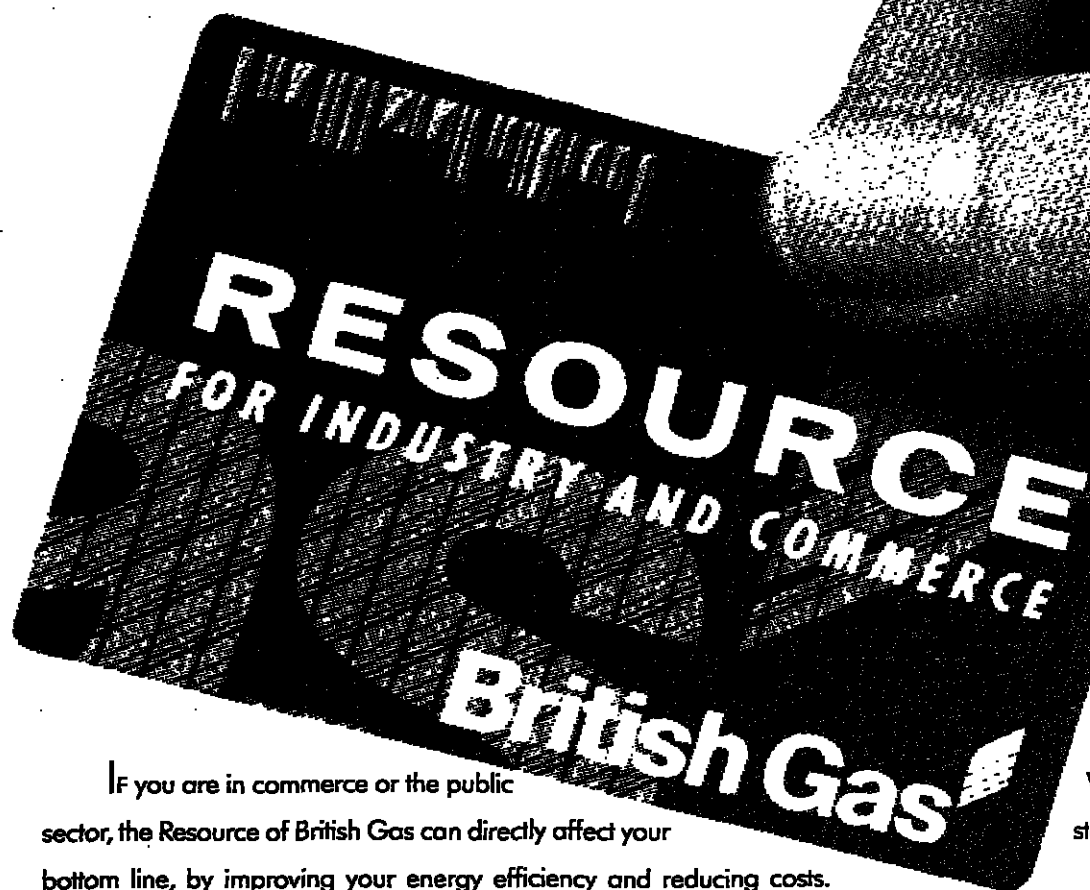
controversy about the foundation. For all their ideals, the foundation's moving spirits have sounded vague when pressed for concrete examples. There are murmurs of it creating facilities such as a recording studio or of supporting "architectural ornament". Bayley writes hilariously that "an imaginative proposal to beautify service areas on the M25" would be sympathetically considered. Less usefully, he talks of creating "a new image for the arts".

But give the man a chance. How can he be anything else but vague? Until he knows who the patrons will be, he cannot possibly know how they want their money spent. He pledges that the foundation will be "unbureaucratic". Well, of course it will. What need is there for red tape when the patron decides — presumably under the guidance of Bayley and Palumbo — where the money goes?

After half a century when the British cultural landscape has been dominated by state subsidy, one takes a while to adjust to the notion that a non-representative and unaccountable new institution may play a significant part in our future artistic life. But it is far too early to be sceptical. If £20 million of "new money" is brought into the cultural sphere, only the most churlish arts-lover would spurn it.

*Palumbo's dream of a new golden age of patronage may become reality*

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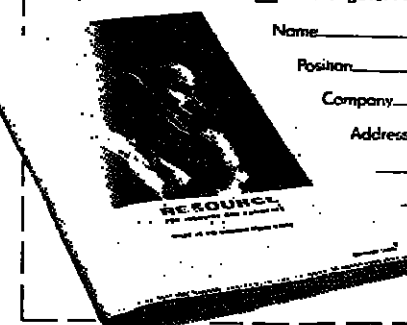
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Martin Jacques

## Out of step with the public will

Soon after Mr Major became prime minister, I interviewed a leading member of the shadow cabinet about what it all meant. To my frustration, he refused to acknowledge that it marked a significant change at all. Son of Thatcher was the beginning and end of the matter.

This was not true then and it is even less true now. Yet it sums up the Tories' dilemma. From the outset the Major-Patten administration recognised that Thatcherism had run its course and that a profound shift was required. The first six months of the new administration have witnessed a remarkable volte-face. The aim was to make the Tories electable again. If successful, the Tories would be the party for all political seasons, offering rugged individualism or gentle compassion according to the requirements of the age. Labour would be reduced to permanent opposition.

Six months on, this looks rather less likely. And the most important single reason is the new public mood. Periodically, something elusive but enormously potent happens in the public mind. It was this that led to the election of a Labour government in 1964. It happened again in the late '70s, this time culminating in the election of Mrs Thatcher. And it is taking place again now. The agenda is no longer the legacy of the '70s, but the downside of the '80s. For a decade, the rhetoric of redistribution and equity had little appeal. Now it is back with a vengeance. Think of the poll tax, or the argument over Robin Leigh-Pemberton's salary increase, or the debate over William Waldegrave's membership of Bupa. If enterprise was the buzzword of the early '80s, fairness has now replaced it.

The shift in the public mood leaves the Tories with an enormous problem. At its heart lies the rejection of Thatcherism. Yet this is precisely what the government cannot do. Its members have too many links with the past. Divisions would become too acute. So the next best course is pursued. A new caring rhetoric is adopted, new priorities are announced, while continuity with the past is reiterated. But when the change in public mood is so profound, this is simply not enough. People will only believe there has been a break with the past if the past itself is criticised. The electorate began to believe Labour had changed its spots only after Labour had endured a long and painful period in opposition during which it distanced itself from governments it had previously formed.

There is a further reason for the Tories' difficulties. Key figures such as Chris Patten undoubtedly recognise the need for a new agenda, but formulating it is a different matter. In our political system, parties generally need a spell in opposition if they are to argue about their future and recharge their intellectual batteries. Labour went through a fundamental change in the '80s, resulting in a new vision of the market and a different conception of the state. The Conservatives now have a similar problem concerning their idea of society. It will take more than a few phrases such as "social market" and "social solidarity" to resolve. It is always dangerous for a political party to attempt to colonise the ground of its adversary. This was the Tories' experience in the early '60s under Macmillan, and Labour's in the late '70s when it embraced monetarism. The reason is obvious: voters wonder why they should not vote for the party that originally held the ground. This is especially the case when the government is, as now, trying to ride two horses. What does it really stand for? Does it believe in high-quality public services or tax cuts? Does it believe in European integration or holding firm? If it believes in state education, then why, when it comes to their children's education, do cabinet ministers eschew *en masse*? While these questions remain unanswered, it will be difficult for the government to appear other than rudderless or for the prime minister to appear other than weak and indecisive.

Private rail companies may succeed where government exhortation has failed, says Martin Mogridge

## Railroading the drivers



Freight train blues: independent operators running on BR tracks must be charged fairly if Riffkind's scheme is to succeed

Almost anyone who has travelled by British Rail over the last few years, or who decided they could no longer bear to travel by train, must regard the conversion to rail heralded by Malcolm Rifkind yesterday as long overdue. But does it mean a change in direction of the government, or merely a difference in emphasis?

Passengers and freight customers are convinced that there must be more investment, but railway staff will have to adapt too. Granting private drivers access to the network is bound to be resisted.

At present, the rank of mainline long-distance driver is the peak of the profession, attained after years of apprenticeship — a legacy from the steam-age. If private firms are to become involved, they will have to train their own drivers intensively (like HGV drivers) within a matter of months, sidestepping the traditional hierarchy.

Proper standards of competence must be maintained, but British Rail's drivers will have to accept that their monopoly too will be over. Judging by previous rows over such links as the Tyneside Metro and Manchester's light railway, persuading them will not be easy.

However, as technology improves, drivers are becoming less

essential anyway. Automatic train protection, for example, is further reducing their role. One can see a time when, as on the Docklands Light Railway, drivers become almost wholly redundant as controllers of train movements, with control shifting to route controllers.

But if we are to have a resurgent rail system, train drivers must be persuaded to accept that these inevitable changes can be in their long-term interests too.

The government has made massive investments in rail facilities over the last four years, but this after decades of neglect when the system was allowed to run down. Most of the capital spent on the rail system is for replacement of assets — new engines and carriages, new

signalling, new track and so on. Very little is for new construction. In the circumstances, it is easy to claim a massive increase in spending without producing much that is new.

More importantly, capital spending on the railways is still governed by harsh Treasury rules on investment. These are quite different from those governing investment in roads, which is assessed according to full cost benefit criteria. The railways, by contrast, have to deliver a rate of return on the capital set by the Treasury. Judged by such cost-benefit criteria, the Cross-Rail schemes in central London, for example, are overwhelmingly worthwhile, yet under Treasury rules they are not.

Last year, the road criteria enabled the government to

announce a £12 billion programme called "Roads to Prosperity". No such comparable national programme is yet evident for high-speed railways.

The last link in the Channel tunnel motorway, giving access to the entire national network, was opened last week by the secretary of state. Yet he has still to decide even on the route of the temporary rail link to a London terminal, let alone through-routes to the rest of the country. Nor will this link match the standards of high-speed rail on the continent, where links with the tunnel will be opening in 1992.

On this side of the Channel, Network South-East commuters endure cattle-truck conditions; women and the elderly travelling

at night find stations unlit and unmanned; in the winter new trains cannot cope with "the wrong kind of snow". Even the Post Office — potentially one of the largest users of the railways — has cancelled its contract with British Rail because it cannot rely on prompt delivery. But we cannot send everything and everyone by road. Since the government made its 1989 forecasts of the "demand" for road travel, it has become abundantly clear that such a burden of traffic cannot possibly be accommodated, however large the motorway and road programme.

Coupled with the government's environmental programme last year, and the consequent commitment to reduce carbon dioxide emissions, this means it is vitally important

to increase the proportion of traffic carried by rail and other public transport, since if demand is high enough, public transport produces much less pollution per journey.

While the extension of facilities for freight announced by Mr Rifkind is to be welcomed, there are two main problems with extending rail use. The pricing strategy for operators on what he admits is an under-used rail network is crucial. If private operators are to be attracted to run trains, they must be charged no more than the marginal costs of using the track, that is, what it actually costs the railway track operator to allow the trains to run. Only then will road and rail begin to be comparable.

If private operators are to get a fair deal a track authority must be formed, similar to those which control roads and airports. Otherwise the British Rail operators can price their competition out of the business. Establishing such an authority is not simple, as we have seen during the privatisation of other monopoly state enterprises such as Telecom.

The transport secretary has a long way to go if we are to get onto the right tracks at last.

The author is associate senior research fellow with the Transport Studies Group, University College, London.

## The ghost of Pearl Harbour

America's true enemy is Japan, and war might ensue. Peter Stothard reports on a pessimistic new book

Just as Washingtonians are beginning to tire of the last war, they have found a new one. Iraq, as General Schwarzkopf says, was "a piece of cake". The next target, according to a fashionable new book given top billing in tomorrow's *New York Review of Books*, is Japan.

All along the parade routes of America, celebrants are still struggling with miles of yellow ribbon. When capital-dwellers talk, however, the one yellow thing is the peril. Before Iraq invaded Kuwait, Japan-bashing meant attempts to open Tokyo markets to American goods. Today, the talk is of shoot-outs across the Pacific.

While President Bush prepares his series of high-flown speeches on the new world order (to be delivered at some future time when something new or ordered can be seen), his advisers are reading a more down-to-earth analysis of the chances for world peace. In *The Coming War With Japan*, authors George Friedman and Meredith LeBarde argue that the long rivalry between America and the Soviet Union has concealed fundamental and fast-growing clashes of interest between America and its Pacific neighbour. The end of the cold war makes the coming new hot war virtually inevitable, they claim.

The thesis of the book is simple. A central aim of American grand strategy is control of its neighbouring oceans. Transatlantic rivals, principally the Germans, do not need open sear lanes for their economies to grow. Across the Pacific, however, Japan has an absolute and expanding need to import and

export by sea in order to survive.

The first US-Japanese War (1941-5) was caused, they say, by Tokyo's attempts to guarantee its supply routes for oil, minerals and exported goods. During the cold war, America kept open the sea lanes and allowed Japan free access to its own markets in order to keep Japan as a bulwark against the Soviet Union. In return, it demanded only that the Japanese forgo its claim to an independent foreign policy.

Now, Friedman and LeBarde predict, this bargain is unacceptable to both sides; and most of all unacceptable to the US. Without the fear of the Soviet Union, Americans will be unwilling to protect oil tankers on behalf of a free-riding, fair-weather friend.

George Bush has a vision of a new world kept in order by the kind of international police force that crushed Iraq. The force would be provided predominantly by America (the one military superpower), but financed by Japan, the economic giant with cash to spare. Tokyo, however, does not approve of these changed terms of trade. Once Japan sees that its golden days are over, the book argues, it will have to make its own arrangements to ensure that its factories get their daily minimum diet: 80 million tonnes of oil, 30 million tonnes of iron ore, 25 million tonnes of coal.

When both countries are patrolling the Pacific and Japan is currying favour with regional governments that America still wants to bring down, such as Vietnam, the insecurities that caused Pearl Harbour and Hiroshima will cause the second war. In the State Department, of course, any such idea is regarded



as ludicrous. No meeting between President Bush and a Japanese prime minister is complete without protestations that Japanese intentions are desperately misunderstood and that both sides ("Toshiki and I") are determined to ensure that the "bashing" ends.

But as *The New York Review* has it, these "pieties" perfectly capture the frustrations of a relationship between countries whose interests will diverge more and more in the coming

years. Although critics can point to the difficulties that America would have in driving Japanese goods out of its markets (the trend towards shared ownership of American companies is but one), the political pressures are clear enough.

The book is not a Japan-bashing tract. It argues that the attack on Pearl Harbour was caused not by evil men plotting world domination, but desperate men caught in a tragic trap created by their overpopulated,

under-resourced island home. This is the version of the Pacific war approved in Tokyo, not Kansas.

The authors say that when war breaks out, it will not be out of ill-will, but because the essential interests of both sides dictate that they must place themselves in a position to fight. They recommend, therefore, that the US should put a high priority on building naval facilities in Singapore, retaining its Philippine bases and increasing its

force levels in South Korea.

None of these aims is currently high on the Pentagon planning list. But that does not mean that the message is alien to the American mind of the 1990s. What is striking about *The Coming War With Japan* is not so much its specific message as its general historical determinism. America is in the mood for certainties — and victory in one war has created an appetite, if not for fighting then at least for waving big sticks around while destiny stands by the flag.

Friedman and LeBarde are strong backers of inevitability; not for them the theories of historical chance that explain the Gulf war by George Bush's hyperactive thyroid or the Battle of Actium by Marc Antony's obsession with Cleopatra's nose.

Historians tend to concentrate on the role of chance (chiefly on its unfairness) when they feel that their countries are in decline. Thus did the Greek writer Polybius explain the defeat of Athens by Rome; thus did Tacitus see the troubles of Rome through reports on the mental state of its emperors.

Before the Gulf war, the American literary world was riven between "declinists", who held that America was collapsing from the weight of military demands upon a weakened economy, and its "revivalists", backed by the White House, who argued that the American polity had the power and flexibility to win through. Now, to be revivalist is not enough.

Goethe says that when eras come to an end, all tendencies are subjective. They become objective, he argues, "when matters are ripening for a new epoch". For "new epoch", the White House speechwriters may insert "new world order". The rest of us are then advised to wait — preferably as far as possible from the western Pacific.

...and moreover

## ALAN COREN

It is the Sabbath morning, the sun is warm, the breeze is soft, and Cricklewood is at its devotions. Upon the myriad places of worship strung out along the Edgware Road like beads upon a rosary, hundreds of families have excitedly descended: they have parked their fresh-buffed cars in impeccable phalanx, they have disembarked, chattering and laughing, they have given one last smoothing tug to their fine Sunday dress, and they have disappeared happily through the doors thrown wide and welcoming by the beaming acolytes of this denomination and that.

For me, I am at the House of Wickes. It is where I go. Up the road, I know, the broad aisles teem in the immense post-modernist cathedrals of Texas Homecare and B&Q and Playless DIY and Smith's Do-It-All, but I am a Wickesian. Just something about it. You know how it is: could be the organ music — they are playing *A Whiter Shade of Pale* this morning; we like the old traditional melodies here — could be that special Wickesian smell of new-minted carpet-tile and crocotted two-by-four; could be the sidemen's sassy garb (scarlet for the women, navy for the men), could be that certain way they have with the homiletic posters pasted up outside, drawing the attentions of the faithful to the miracles and opportunities that lie within. Enter, they murmur, pause awhile, for solace is here, help and guidance from those who understand life's irksome trials.

Could be nothing more than the big sign on the roof that describes what we are all about: for is there not an ineffably English devotional ring to "HOME IMPROVEMENT"?

I, too, have on my Sunday clothes: neat green dungarees, a yellow box-rule setting off one upper pocket, stout boots below in anticipation of the imminent falling hammer, thick gloves in my hip-pocket in anticipation of the ill-aimed one, and on my head, of course, the flat cap which to the handyman is as much badge as comfort. I carry, too, like all my fellow-congregants, my little black book. A psalter, you might guess, a hymnal; but it is more even than these. It is *Measurements Ancient & Modern*; it has metric conversion tables at the front, it has a ready-reckoner in the middle, and at the back it has the little ring-bound pad wherein I jot my private needs and secret thoughts.

Today, for example, it says not only "2 rolls roofing-felt, 1 lb best galvanised clouts, 6 battens x 36", but also "Ask Derek about mastic". I do not know if I need mastic. I want to do what is known as A Proper Job because who roofs a shed as for Thy sake makes that and the action fine, and Derek has been my help in ages past. The litany is simple: I shall ask Derek if I need to gum the new felt on with mastic before I secure it with the clouts, and he will almost certainly say "Well, if you want A Proper Job...". He may not, but I have to ask him, because if I don't, and my

new roof peels off, I shall have to go back next Sunday and say "Forgive me, Derek, for I have sinned", and Derek will say, "Sounds like A Botched Job to me, did you put mastic on first?" and I shall shake my head and receive my penance, ie strip off old new roof and lay down new new roof this time with mastic.

There are dozens of villagers waiting the aisles, and the familiar faces nod and smile and murmur at one another, for it is the secondary function of any church — some might, these days, say the primary — to be the community's social core; from time to time, we stop and enquire how the new fence is coming along, whether the ballooock is still playing up, when Number 14 is going to do that bloody chimney of his, and we might well end up, after the morning's duty is done, strolling along the road to the Cricklewood Hotel for a jar and two and a chat about grouting.

Or even — for when better than Sunday morning for a shy at the abstract thought which, otherwise tedious, among the English, to take second place to the practicalities of weeping radiator and lifting veneer? — a chat about The Wickes Petition. We have, of course, all signed this, to register our support for Sabbath traders currently in a state of sin, but should it fail, what will become of us? Never mind the priests, where are the congregants to turn.

God knows where else we'd go on a Sunday.

## Legacy of the old left

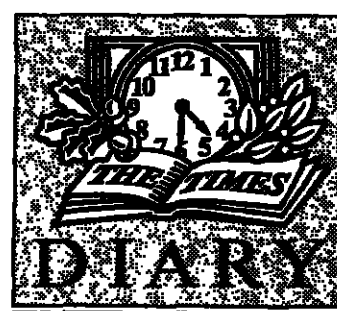
Eric Hoffer may haunt Neil Kinnock from beyond the grave. Three days before his death, the self-styled keeper of the true left-wing faith completed the amendments to his autobiography, *Never a Yes Man*. The 250,000-word manuscript, written on his sick bed, pulls no punches.

"I have become used to betrayals," he wrote. "In a long political life they are inevitable. Some have been minor. But one cut so deeply into my socialist beliefs that the wound has never healed." This was at the 1985 conference, when Neil Kinnock launched his trade against Militant in Liverpool. "His face was set with anger as he spat out the words," says Hoffer. "It was too much to bear. I walked out."

Hoffer is scathing about the new model Labour party's willingness to let Mrs Thatcher "move the goalposts", and includes revelations about Kinnock's drive to centralise policy-making by emasculating the party conference and active members.

Tony Benn, who is contributing a foreword, says: "He takes us through every ideological dispute of the left almost like a theological historian. It is a very great book. It will introduce Eric Hoffer to future generations who would not otherwise have known him." Benn, who acknowledges that the book will be interpreted as an attack on Kinnock's leadership, says: "It would be a mistake to regard it as an attack of a personal nature. It is a political critique of the direction of the party."

Just before he died Hoffer said of the book: "I haven't had time to make it elegant, but journalist friends say it's a good effort." Ominously he added: "I have been blunt." The left-wing publishers, Verso, hopes to have the book in the shops by August... possibly



only weeks before an autumn general election.

With Labour already facing a potentially divisive by-election in Hoffer's Merseyside constituency, the last thing Kinnock will want is to be reminded of the spectre of the left. But Hoffer would be delighted if this were his lasting legacy to the party.

Although he never went into Neil Kinnock's office for a drink, Hoffer was no stranger to Mrs Thatcher's hospitality. On one celebrated occasion, after Mrs Thatcher had attacked Liverpool's Labour leaders from the dispatch box, she spotted Hoffer in a Commons corridor. Tapping him on the shoulder she said: "Come into my private room." It was a request no gentleman could refuse. Hoffer fully obliged and was revived with a generous draught of Mrs Thatcher's favourite whisky.

## Advertising space

After Helen Sharman's giant extra-terrestrial leap for womanhood, it has proved a mere step for Britain's first astronaut to embrace the inevitable prize for all new celebrities, from Gazza to General Schwarzkopf: a lucrative career in advertising. No sooner had Miss Sharman finished floating weightlessly inside the Russian space station than an advertisement for Olympus appeared bearing a picture of the compact camera she took on her trip. And after her Juno capsule

landed safely, she was featured in an interflora ad which boasted that she had sent her mother the first bouquet from space. "Her mum always thought she'd go far," says the advert. "Now she thinks she's out of this world."

Agency chiefs say the ad's limit as far as her promotional future is concerned. "She's going to be Britain's first woman astronaut for a long time," says Jerry Judge, chairman of one of the country's largest agencies, Bartle Bogle Hegarty. "If you've been to space, naturally people think you have superhuman powers." Perhaps she should be promoting *Masters of the Universe*?

## Speaking volumes

John Major says one of his favourite pastimes is browsing in a good bookshop. But staff in one bookshop in the heart of his constituency cannot recall



GED

him ever setting foot across the threshold. Michael Richards, who runs Chaffers Bookshop in Huntingdon, complains in the latest issue of *Publishing News*: "He's never been in here. He doesn't support his local bookshop at all."

The tiny shop is just off Huntingdon High Street, and is popular with tourists and locals alike. One might think that

biographies of the prime minister would be a local hit, but Richards says: "I have only sold a few. Kitty Kelley's book on Nancy Reagan is a much better seller."

## Pole position

More than four centuries after the death of Reginald Pole, the last Roman Catholic Archbishop of Canterbury, a request to erect an elaborate monument to his memory in the cathedral has been turned down.

Father Brocard Sewell, a Carmelite friar and leading Catholic writer, wanted the present archbishop, Dr Carey, and Cardinal Basil Hume the Archbishop of Westminster jointly to fund the erection of a proper tomb to Pole, who died in 1558 and was buried in a plain tomb behind the high altar near the shrine of St Thomas à Becket.

"He was the last Archbishop of Canterbury to be in communion with the Holy See, and he should be remembered with a proper memorial," says Fr Sewell.

But the Dean of Canterbury, the Rev John Simpson, believes Cardinal Pole should remain where he is. "He was buried in a plain tomb at his own request," says his spokesman. "We have very detailed records about the manner in which he was buried, which was with the full rites of the Roman Catholic Church. It was really what he wanted, and he shall remain there."

When Malcolm Rifkind unveiled his transport initiative yesterday he had to endure one gas-crasher: John Prescott. Labour's transport spokesman could not contain his curiosity, elbowed his way into Rifkind's presentation and was able to give an instant reaction to the assembled media. "He did not have an invitation," says a Labour source. "I don't suppose anyone even noticed he was there." Rifkind did.





## ALL THINGS TO ALL MEN

No policy is so vulnerable to platitudes as transport, or so vulnerable to economic illiteracy. One citizen's right to freedom of mobility is another's tyranny of congestion; the chosen route of one is the inconvenience of another. Mobility should be unfettered, congestion cured by government fiat. All roads should be free, and empty.

Yesterday's much-trumpeted policy initiative by the transport secretary, Malcolm Rifkind, was another valiant stab at the best of all worlds. It contained much good, but showed that the transport department's mind is stuck in the question-begging mode. Transport is "a necessity not a luxury", is about "the quality of life" and must be environment-friendly. Daft statistics, designed to terrify the Treasury, show "demand" unrelated to supply or price: road traffic rising in the 1990s by "between 68 per cent and 112 per cent". Having postulated this monster, Mr Rifkind blithely pledges his government "to overcome congestion".

As long as politicians pretend that transport is like education and health, a good to be universally encouraged, and the resulting congestion an evil to be ended by government, so long will expectations soar. The result is no mystery: since the most desirable transport is by private vehicle, ever more roads must be built.

The first task for a sensible government is to use price to ration transport space and, ultimately, movement itself. As the indirect costs of movement — the economist's externalities — rise over Britain's limited land area, those costs must be borne more by individuals. Road pricing is a good way, but technically complex. Higher petrol taxes are another. Even with both, the public must accept rationing by congestion and politicians must tell them so. It is foolish to encourage ever more people to enter central London at the same time, whether by road or rail, or more car parks, more red routes or more rail investment. Travel is expensive and must be made so to users. This is the way to encourage office decentralisation, staggered hours, phased holidays and greater use of the most beneficial of modes, walking and cycling. A cure for congestion is like

universal good health: a chimera. Ask the citizens of Los Angeles, Houston or Tokyo.

The search for an uncongested road has led Mr Rifkind up some strange cul-de-sacs, none more so than the "private motorway" Midlands orbital and crossings for the Thames and Severn. The investor will be given a geographical monopoly, its yield depending on government not improving existing roads. This is absurd. If a toll road is justified, then government should put construction out to tender but not the yield. The Treasury should end its dogmatic resistance to more public investment.

But private roads are Mr Rifkind's damocles to his right wing. In other respects, his mind is clearly more open. A more private railway is moving slowly up the agenda even as BR's subsidy also rises again. Private rail operators are to be licensed for both freight and, more significantly, passenger services. There are difficulties in treating one operator as a track authority for rivals on mainline services. But on BR's provincial tracks, there are opportunities for private and local authority enterprise. BR's statutory monopoly on passenger services must first be removed, and soon.

This is only a precursor to full privatisation. What is disappointing about Mr Rifkind's speech is that, after five years of argument about the boundary between the public and private sectors in transport, he is no nearer making firm decisions. Just as he appears unclear what criteria should decide what roads are private and what public, so he is unclear how or when BR should be privatised, despite years of consultancy fees. He is certainly unclear what to do with the poor Channel tunnel fast link.

Privatising the railways does not mean ending public commitment or even subsidy, any more than did privatising the buses. It does mean giving them a clear sight of their future. The most important role of a modern government is to take decisions. The inertial matrix of transport department, Treasury and Downing Street has been unable to do this about railways for so long it seems to have forgotten how.

## NEW DEAL FOR ETHIOPIA

Ethiopia has a new government, in fact if not in name. With America's official blessing, the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF) led by the general secretary of the Tigray People's Liberation Front, Meles Zenawi, is to assume "state responsibility" pending the formation of a transitional government.

Such a government, to include a wider spectrum of Ethiopian political life than the EPRDF, was supposed to have been formed in London this week. Peace talks sponsored by the Americans ended unexpectedly when they were overtaken by events in Addis Ababa. There, EPRDF forces (also with America's approval) took control of the city yesterday morning to prevent a breakdown of law and order. It was imperative to establish a firm civil authority to replace what the Americans courteously describe as the "outgoing government".

In London, the government delegation withdrew yesterday morning from the talks; in Addis Ababa, it had already dissolved. Tesfaye Gabre Kidan, the acting head of state, had lost control over the army which he had ordered to cease fire. The relatively disciplined EPRDF troops were a better guarantee against looting and anarchy than were the demoralised, penniless and famished remnants of Africa's largest army. They could only hold the ring until the political vacuum was filled.

Are the Americans on course for the "democratic transition" they seek, or is Ethiopia exchanging one Marxist dictatorship for another? Mr Zenawi claims to have abandoned his admiration for the Albanian model of Stalinism. In the areas under its control, the TPLF has freed farmers from the hated collectivisation of the Mengistu regime and allowed markets to function. Its new programme supports free elections and

private enterprise, albeit while promising to destroy "capitalist" institutions and "decadent imperialist culture".

The hopes for democracy hinge not only on the sincerity of this somewhat ambiguous platform but on whether the EPRDF sticks to yesterday's agreement to a broadly-based transitional government involving some "acceptable" members of the old regime and all opposition groups, including non-combatants. This would prepare for internationally supervised elections within nine to 12 months to a constituent assembly, which would then draw up a new constitution for Ethiopia. The EPRDF is also under American pressure to honour the right of the Eritreans to self-determination.

The EPRDF has three incentives for keeping its word. First, Ethiopians are heartily sick of Marxism. Second, domination of the government by the TPLF, which represents less than three million of Ethiopia's 52-million population, would reignite feuds between Ethiopia's many ethnic groups. It therefore needs to build a national coalition and accept a high degree of local autonomy. The third is that to rebuild an economy devastated by war and Marxist tyranny, it needs foreign cash, unlikely to be forthcoming without American approval.

The Americans have used the talks to maximise that leverage, drumming home one message: "No democracy — no co-operation." They have set a timetable for elections, and said they expect an amnesty for most members of the old regime, and fair internationally monitored trials for those accused of human rights violations. Having invested its prestige in rescuing Ethiopia from self-destruction, America has established the rules of the game, and placed itself in the ring as a referee no Ethiopian government can afford to ignore.

## BEACHING THE WHALERS

Not the whales but the whalers are now a hunted species. The Green lobby wants them extinct as fast as possible. But the net they were persuaded to swim into in 1986 — the start of the International Whaling Commission's moratorium "for the conservation of stocks" — had holes in it.

At least one species of whale, the minke, is apparently not threatened but plentiful. The three main whaling countries, Iceland, Norway and Japan, have collected evidence to prove it. They have the better of the argument. Whales breed slowly — usually a single calf not closer together than two or three years — so the five-year pause will have done little to raise their total numbers. But the latest research suggests world minke stocks are of the order of a million, and that within Iceland's 200-mile fishing limit they are present in their tens of thousands. There is no dispute that rare species — the Antarctic fin whale, for instance, is down to its last 2,000 — should be protected. But there is also little doubt that minke whale stocks can be managed to enable a controlled resumption of commercial whaling.

Those who campaigned for the moratorium under the conservationist banner have therefore had to change to another tune. They always had humanitarian as well as conservationist motives, and shocking images of the sea tinged red with the blood of thrashing whales have moved public opinion to their side. John Gummer, the agriculture minister who is putting Britain's case against whaling at the Reykjavik conference, has recently promoted cruelty to

whales above conservation as his primary objection to whaling. The explosive harpoon is an uncivilised instrument which rarely kills instantly. "We would not allow a farmer to stick something in a cow and chase it three times round five fields before it died," he said last month.

But the humanitarian case must be soundly based. Sentimental feelings towards one species are insufficient grounds for nations to interfere in the traditional livelihood or diet of others: Britons would not like it if Indians demanded an end to roast beef on the grounds that it required the murder of cows. Without a convincing case against the lifting of the present ban, Iceland, Japan and Norway may this week simply walk out of the IWC and resume commercial whaling. Without them, the moratorium will be an empty gesture.

The whale is regarded as special for good reasons. It is not a fish but an advanced mammal. Its brain size — six times that of a human being — suggests a creature capable of communicating with its fellows and of feeling fear and pain, perhaps even grief. Palaeontologists believe that whales are descended from land creatures. They still have the equivalent of a pelvis; a whale fossil was recently found in Egypt with vestigial legs. They deserve the same standards of treatment as equally sophisticated creatures in the hierarchy of animal life. A return to the cruelty of existing methods of whaling by Norway, Japan and Iceland will damage their reputation as civilised societies.

## Burmese refugees fear for safety

From the Director of the Refugee Council  
Sir, The Refugee Council is greatly alarmed to receive reliable reports that Thailand is to deport 20,000 Burmese refugees.

Over 3,000 civilians were killed by security forces in 1988 in student-led democracy protests. The Burmese army, promising multi-party democracy, came to power by coup in September 1988. But despite this promise, the State Law and Order Restoration Council ignored the results of the election held in 1989. This election brought an overwhelming victory for the National League for Democracy.

According to reliable sources some 1,000 National League for Democracy activists are in prison, including elected MPs. Most of those held in jail, we understand, have been tortured.

The Burmese (Union of Myanmar) government has recently launched many air offensives over jungle regions where tribal opposition and pro-democracy activists are in hiding. At least 50,000 Burmese have fled into exile in Thailand, where their status is uncertain as most of them are classified as illegal immigrants.

The Thai government has recently passed legislation that stipulates that a Thai citizen helping an illegal immigrant can receive five years in prison or a large fine. Many landlords have evicted Burmese refugees as a result of this. Foreign aid workers helping Burmese refugees may be deported under recent laws.

Human rights violations in Burma are extreme and the Refugee Council believes that any Burmese refugee sent back would risk imprisonment, torture or death. The Thai government should reconsider its decision and afford Burmese refugees justice whilst in exile.

Yours faithfully,  
ALF DUBS, Director,  
Refugee Council,  
3 Bondway, SW8,  
May 28.

## Regimental system

From Mr Noel Ayliffe-Jones

Sir, Brigadier Bidwell (May 17) is wrong in his interpretation of the regimental system and its value to the army. There is as much regimental pride in the infantry of the line as in the Guards, Greenjackets or cavalry — almost as much as among gunners. Regimental strength stems as much, or more, from other ranks as from officers.

He also impugns the integrity of every officer when he avers that the regimental system is the enemy of inter-aim co-operation, an assertion that cannot be justified.

By all means discuss and analyse the options for change, but it would be anachronistic to start from the

## Parties closer on constitutional change

From Professor Stephen Haseler

Sir, Norman Tebbit's decision (Daily Mail, May 22) to support the cause of disestablishing the Church of England is yet another, welcome, example of an emerging cross-party consensus which is developing in favour of radical constitutional change.

With Paddy Ashdown's call last July, since repeated, for a "nation of citizens, not subjects", John Major's commitment upon becoming leader of the Conservative party to "constitutional evolution" and Tony Benn's Commonwealth of Britain Bill (report, May 21) the long overdue reform of our body politic is now on the immediate political agenda.

Tebbit's disestablishment proposal is all the more interesting because it strikes at the very heart of our ancient regime constitution. Here we are, on the verge of the 21st century, attempting to create a modern and competitive culture, about to become increasingly involved in a new European dimension, but still clinging to an outdated constitution in which, contrary to virtually every modern liberal norm throughout the world, church is tied to the state, peers have a legislative

role and the monarchy has constitutional powers.

The proposal for disestablishment of the church deals with this problem sensitively and intelligently. By breaking with the feudal past, whilst at the same time creating the conditions for the church to develop and flourish as an independent body, it can serve as the prototype for further disestablishment measures. For instance, both the peers and the monarchy could also be freed from a constitutional-legislative role, thereby enabling them to concentrate solely upon the ceremonial function.

Ideas for constitutional change have been building amongst academics, think tanks, journalists and ordinary citizens for some time. Now that the great debate between the market economy and socialism is over, constitutional reform will surely become the over-riding issue for the next generation. It is good to see politicians now responding to this pressure for change.

Sincerely yours,  
STEPHEN HASELER,  
2 Thackeray House,  
Ansfield Street, Kensington, W8,  
May 25.

## Family planning

From Mr Alex Marshall

Sir, The slogan "condoms not cash" (leading article, May 10; letters, May 18) makes an artificial distinction. Family planning services are part of development programmes, not a substitute for them. Many "natural" dastards can be prevented; development helps prevent them; family planning helps development. But telling victims of flood or cyclone that they should have had fewer children is like telling victims of famine they should have grown more food: it conveniently shifts the blame on to the victims.

There is no need to wait for incomes to rise before putting family planning programmes in place. Women in developing countries, and increasingly men, want fewer children than their parents did. Nearly all countries have

legalised modern contraception and more than half of couples use it.

Even if social and economic conditions are right, family planning doesn't just happen. If the services aren't there, people can't use them. Hence the need for special efforts to provide not only cheap, safe, effective but voluntary contraception services, but information and education about their use.

We cannot foresee or prevent every emergency. Our common humanity demands and will always demand that we respond quickly; victims of war or flood or famine need food and shelter. Survival comes first; the rest comes later.

Yours sincerely,  
ALEX MARSHALL  
(Chief, Media Services),  
United Nations Population Fund,  
220 East 42nd Street,  
New York 10017, USA,  
May 23.

## Let them eat sweets

From the Director of the Biscuit, Cake, Chocolate and Confectionery Alliance

Sir, I would not like your readers to gain the impression that the "molar man" symbol ("A sweet to keep the dentist away", May 16) will have any effect on the dental health of the nation. In fact, on 98 per cent of the occasions when we eat, the food contains some form of carbohydrate which is involved in the caries process.

In order to qualify for the symbol, products will have to have zero or very low levels of carbohydrate. In addition, in order to be fair, the symbol will have to be applied to other products which have a known

premise that the existing good should be destroyed in order to build anew. We blame the breakdown of the family for many of the ills that society suffers today. Why break up regimental families, in the name of "progress", and risk the same disorders in the army?

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,  
N. AYLIFFE-JONES,  
J West Dean,  
Salisbury, Wiltshire,  
May 17.

From Mr J. G. Taylor

Sir, As a third-generation volunteer rifleman in the second world war I felt immediately at home in the regimental depot at Winchester. My primary training was imaginative and thorough; but, more important,

the Rifle Brigade nurtured and fostered a spirit of self-discipline that has served me well in war and peace.

Brigadier Bidwell may have found inter-arm cooperation lacking; from my lowly depths as rifleman I found healthy competition and a willingness to help other units in trouble. I have a lot to thank the regimental system for, and the fact that we have a thriving Old Comrades Association some 50 years on still looking after comrades in trouble must mean something.

Yours faithfully,  
J. G. TAYLOR  
(formerly Rifleman 6921700),  
18 Davidson Terrace,  
Clarendon Road, E7,  
May 17.

## On the fast side

From Mr Hal Summers

Sir, Your reviewer Richard Morrison (May 16) used the phrase "a prestissimo on the upper side of manic" about a musical performance. I have long thought that nearly all fast movements in music are taken too fast nowadays, and that there are several objections.

The first is that the brain of the "common listener" cannot take the message as quickly as the brain of the professional player, and therefore even what would be all right for the latter is not all right for the former.

The second is the inevitable suggestion arising from over-speed — "this is rather boring but we must get through it and at least we can show off our cleverness".

The third is that any musical phrase is trivialised by playing it beyond a critical speed. I remember an overture to Figaro taken so fast that a run-down from D to G in the violins could be rendered only by a sort of "slurp" utterly un-Mozartian.

Yours etc.,  
HAL SUMMERS,  
Folly Fields, Linden Gardens,  
Tunbridge Wells, Kent,  
May 16.

## Dangerous dogs

From Mr Peter Birts, QC

Sir, You are right to highlight (reports and leading article, May 21) the inadequacy of the present law on dangerous dogs but only half right in stating that "those who choose rottweilers and pit bull terriers do so from a sick desire to put others in fear".

Given the increasing numbers of savage dogs kept by householders for the purpose of guarding premises against burglary and trespass, one possible reform would be to extend the Guard Dogs Act 1975 to dwelling-houses and farms. Their present exclusion from the act (s.7) has the surprising result that those who allow uncontrolled guard dogs to roam freely and without any warning notice in such premises commit no offence, whilst their counterparts in commercial premises are liable to a fine of £2,000 (increasing to £5,000 under the Criminal Justice Bill).

The present definition of "guard dog" as a dog which is being used to protect premises or property on the premises or a person guarding either — which could apply to a toy poodle — would need narrowing so as to include only the fiercer breeds and/or larger sizes.

Yours faithfully,  
PETER W. BIRTS,  
Farrar's Building, Temple, EC4.

From Mr G. F. Boote

Sir, Outrages, be they massacres in Hungerford or maulings in Bradford, are apparently a prerequisite for restrictive legislation affecting the innocent and the irresponsible alike.

Certain dog-owners, in common with certain firearm-owners, will find themselves at odds with the law, and possibly facing financial loss. They will do so, not because they acted illegally, but because they failed to anticipate retrospective legislation following a belated governmental U-turn.

The potential for tragedy, if not the individual casualties, was in both cases foreseeable. The lesson to be learned is that legislation with foresight is far less complicated than damage limitation with hindsight.

Yours faithfully,  
G. F. BOOTE,  
13 Bathstone Grove,  
Leigh, Lancashire,  
May 23.

From Mr Richard Baker

Sir, No right-minded citizen can feel anything other than utter horror at attacks by dogs on innocent people and deepest sympathy for those so injured.

Why, despite the RSPCA's wise recommendation to establish a dog registration scheme, has the government decided to exterminate all so-called "fighting" dogs currently

## Britain's part in 'new astronomies'

From the Astronomer Royal

Sir, In your leading article of May 20, after some critical remarks about the value of investment in manned space flight — or rather the lack of it — you expressed the view that "the scientific quest cannot and should not be halted altogether". I really must endorse this view completely: indeed the scientific quest should be enhanced — there can be no doubt of the value of instrumented satellites for research in space.

The United Kingdom has an extraordinarily high reputation for work in this area by way of research in the universities and at the Rutherford-Appleton Laboratory. In basic research we are making great contributions to knowledge in the "new astronomies" — principally in the infrared, ultraviolet and X-ray wavebands. The international collaborations through which we carry out this work, largely within the European Space Agency, are good examples of tightly run enterprises.

More important, in the short term at least, is our work in the "earth observation" field, that is using satellite-borne detectors to look back at the earth and measure the various properties of the atmosphere and the land and sea surfaces. Such work has great significance for meteorology and for communications. Furthermore, only when these measurements are made and the data married with results from the ground — and understood — will it be possible to understand global warming and ozone depletion.

The stakes are high: space research is a must.

Yours sincerely,  
ARNOLD WOLFENDALE,  
University of Durham,  
Department of Physics,  
Science Laboratories,  
South Road, Durham,  
May 21.

From Mrs Sandra Padfield

Sir, Mr Walford (May 14) says the internal drainage boards, not the farmers, control the pumping of water from the Somerset Levels. The boards are entirely dominated by pro-drainage farmers who gear their activities to suit the needs of other pro-drainage farmers. Dissenting voices, distressed at the loss of so much beauty and wildlife from the land, are generally excluded from them.

Nearly £2 million of taxpayers' money is, along with the water, being poured down the drains. We are paying Levels farmers to use slightly less nitrogen and pollard their remaining willows. The net gain to the indigenous flora and fauna is virtually nil.

The small print of the landscape, the piping redbanks, the soft hues of flower-filled meadows and hay fields, has been almost entirely lost, except in small pockets where land is owned and managed by sympathetic farmers or conservation organisations. Even these are finding it increasingly difficult to maintain their land in a damp condition because of the overall lowering of water levels.

Yours faithfully,  
S. E. PADFIELD,  
Capella, Ashcott Road,  
Meare, Somerset,  
May 15.

## Arrogance of certainty

From Captain P. R. D. Kimm, RN (retd).

Sir, If one is a Christian, the answer to Sir Hermann Bondi's charge (article, May 20) of arrogance in thinking that one's own belief is right, lies in Christ's claim to be "the way, the truth and the life". If he is not, then Jesus of Nazareth was the most arrogant human being ever to have walked the earth, and we who follow him are indeed the most unfortunate of all people.

Sir Hermann concludes that "the search is the real joy of living". I would suggest that, on the contrary, the joy lies in the discovery; and it reassures me to know that such "arrogant" figures as St Francis of Assisi and Mother Teresa of Calcutta have been and are of the same mind.

Yours sincerely,  
PETER KIMM,  
69 New Brighton Road,  
Emsworth, Hampshire,  
May 20.

From the Reverend H. L. Kirk

Sir, When Sir Hermann Bondi denies that believers can have certainty in revelation, how certain is he?

Yours faithfully,  
H. L. KIRK,  
38 Hillmorton Road,  
Rugby, Warwickshire,  
May 20.

That's no Lady ...

From Lady Lawrence

Sir, "Just for you!", trills the cover slip to the mail-shot which I received this morning. "Please accept these personalised labels with the compliments of" a well-known cancer-relief campaign.

A useful idea, I thought. Alas, however, the letter which follows starts "Dear Mr Lady". And the labels — all 46 of them — are neatly addressed to a Mr Lawrence Lady, apparently cohabiting with me.

Yours sincerely,  
AVICE LAWRENCE,  
52 Flat Court, Courtenay Terrace,  
Hove, East Sussex,  
May 25.

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071 782 5046).











# Steppin' into a purple patch

**New York romantic comedy**  
**Enter Mike**

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Mazzetta (71-630 5111)

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conspiracy and leading role  
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Bardol (71-636 8851) Odeons:  
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Mazzetta (71-630 5111)  
Odeon (71-632 8844/5) Whittles (71-752  
3034/324)

**L.A. STORY** (15): Steve Martin's  
weekend dreamer finds love in comedy  
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3034/324) Hymers (71-434 0510) Whittles  
(71-750 3035/3354)

**MISERY** (18): Oscar-winning Kathy  
Bates as the number one fan tormenting  
author novelist (James Caan)  
Psychic thriller from Stephen King's  
best director, Rob Reiner  
Odeon (71-636 0313) Whittles (71-752  
3034/324) Hymers (71-434 0510)  
Whittles (71-752 3035/3354)  
Odeon (71-636 0313) Whittles (71-752  
3034/324) Hymers (71-434 0510)  
Whittles (71-752 3035/3354)  
Odeon (71-636 0313) Whittles (71-752  
3034/324) Hymers (71-434 0510)  
Whittles (71-752 3035/3354)

**NIGHT SUN** (12): Tolson's Father  
Morgan adapted by the Tavert Brothers  
recent performance by Juliet  
Bates as the monk struggling with  
the image God  
Odeon (71-636 0313) Whittles (71-752  
3034/324) Hymers (71-434 0510)  
Whittles (71-752 3035/3354)

**THESE FOOLISH THINGS (PG):**  
Tavert's Tavernier's character piece  
about a writer (John Cazale) who  
is abandoned by his daughter (Jane Fonda)  
and herself, art, but tender  
Director (71-636 0313) Whittles (71-752  
3034/324) Hymers (71-434 0510)  
Whittles (71-752 3035/3354)

**WHITE PALACE** (19): Tense tale  
of a man (Sander) and his wife (Sander)  
and his daughter (Sander)  
Director (71-636 0313) Whittles (71-752  
3034/324) Hymers (71-434 0510)  
Whittles (71-752 3035/3354)

National (Lyttelton) (as left).  
Tonight, tomorrow 7.30pm.

tional (lyricism) on (left).  
 7.23pm, Sat today.  
 15pm, 180mins.

**TWELFTH NIGHT:** Peter Hall's  
 original production with Eric Porter,  
 Rosalinde Wiseman, David Ryall,  
 John Wood, and others. Northampton  
 Theatre, WC2 (07-539 4401). Mon-Sat,  
 7.30pm, Sat Wed, Sat, 3pm.

**TWO SHAKESPEAREAN**  
 ACTORS: John Cargill and Antonia  
 Quinlan play rival Thespians in  
 two plays from the high Renaissance  
 the PNI, *Barbarian Century* (as left).  
 Tonight, tomorrow, 7.30pm, sat  
 15pm, Sun, 2pm, 180mins.

**WAITING FOR THE PSYCHIC:**  
 A play introduced by men but followed  
 by women play superbly acted by  
 the Moscow company.  
 Price, £4.50. Embassy Pub, 101, Strand,  
 W11 (01-729 0706). Mon-Sat,  
 9pm, 90mins.

**THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS:**  
 Best performance of Alan Bennett's  
 adaptation of Kenneth Grahame's  
 version. (Olivier) (as left). Tonight,  
 tomorrow, 7.15pm, sat tomorrow, Sat, 2pm.  
 15pm, 180mins.

**A WIND AND A PRAYER:** Alan Bennett's  
 natural wheeler/dealer comedy set  
 in a class nursing home.  
 Price, £4.50. Embassy Pub, 101, Strand,  
 W11 (0222). Tues-Sun, 8pm, sat 7pm,  
 90mins.

**DRIVING RUNNERS:**

- Aspects of  
 War: Prince of Wales (07-438  
 9400) Blood Royal (07-438  
 9400) (07-1857 1115).
- Buddy:  
 Victoria Palace (07-434 1217)
- The Great Escape (07-405 6072)
- Five Guys Named Moe
- (07-474 5045)
- Me and My  
 Girl (07-433 5511)
- Las  
 Vegas (07-434 434)
- Miss Saigon: Theatre  
 Square, Drury Lane (07-436  
 8888)
- The Mousetrap:  
 Martin's (07-436  
 8888)
- The Phantom of  
 the Opera: Her Majesty's  
 Theatre (07-436 8888)
- The Rhesus: Gaiety  
 Theatre (07-439 8107).
- Return to the  
 Forbidden City (07-379 379  
 36).
- The Rocky Horror  
 Show: Piccadilly (07-487  
 9419)
- Run For Your  
 Life (07-386 8643).
- Shitky  
 Nineties: Duke of York's (07-436  
 8888)
- Stargate Express: Apollo  
 Theatre (07-436 8888).
- The  
 Winner in Black: Fortune (07-436  
 8888).

For more information supplied by  
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**Aldwych, The Aldwych, Lond**

**LYWYCH, The Alwylch, London**  
 (071-636 6404), 8pm, extended to 10.30pm

**DELLON QUARTET:**  
*Norman's String Quartet* in F, Op 39  
 1 and *Programme No 13* in B flat, op  
 1 from the programme in the last of the  
 quartet's concert series, concert  
 1, Wigmore Hall, Wigmore Street,  
 London W1 (071-635 2141), 7.30pm.

**AUST:** Opera North's spring tour  
 includes *Die Entführung aus dem Serail*, a  
 successful production of *Die Entführung*  
 of the second's tune-fied treatment of the  
 story, the man who sells his  
 freedom in exchange for the youth  
 of his, Arthur Davies takes the  
 role, while the veteran Richard Van  
 Dusen plays the villainous Belmont.  
 The Dawson is the unfortunate victim of  
 a lost love, Roy Layhne conducts.  
 Theatre Royal, Bath, Bath, Wiltshire  
 BA1 1TH (0802-822626), 7.15pm.

**ONCE TEMPORARY**  
**THEATRE:** The company's  
 new moves to the new theatre  
 forming a selection of the most  
 successful works from its repertoire:  
*When Did You Leave My Arms*, *On*  
*the Edge of the World* and *Jonathan*  
*and The Blue Door*.  
 Theatre Royal, Bath, Bath, Wiltshire  
 BA1 1TH (0802-822626), 7.30pm.



WHEN, in the opening scene of *Costume and Character*, the two young men turn confidently to considering how they will spend what they will undoubtedly win from Alfonso, Ferrando's answer is prompt: he will commission "un' opera bella serenata." Of course, the serenade duly arrives in the second act, but by that time, in just one of those work's ironies, the men are losing themselves in the game of paying tribute to each other's sweethearts. In the *debutante* this year, however, has spoken Ferrando's wish before him and commissioned from Nigel Osborne (and who knows whether this would have been Ferrando's own

**CONCERT**  
**BBC SO/Rozhdvestvensky**  
**Festival Hall**

TO HELP celebrate Pushkin's birthday as well as the Prokofiev centenary, Daniel Massey and Prunella Scales have brought to join the BBC Symphony Orchestra with Gennady Rozhdvestvensky. They spoke lines of Pushkin's verse and prose in French and English to enliven the suite *Pushkiniana*, an arrangement created by the conductor from pieces of music that Prokofiev had written for film and theatre projects at the time of the poet's centenary in 1937.

Two Pushkin waltzes that Prokofiev composed later were also added, as was Rozhdvestvensky's new orchestra-

NO GREAT powers of observation are needed to detect why Arthur H is usually described as "the French Tom Paris". The answer lies in the gruff, unworried voice and the sardonic view of life in general and love in particular. As 1992 looms closer, he should appeal to the new multinational audience and the bright young things who keep *The Face* and *Paris Match*.

The Osborne piece is one of a group of arrangements of six, scheduled to be played only at the weekend performances, the other composers involved being Jonathan Dove (Figaro), Robert Saxton (*Joséphine*), Stephen Oliver (*Tito*), Jonathan Dove (*Figaro*), and John Adams (*Figaro*). Knussen (*Don Giovanni*) thought this score has yet to be delivered. It is an imaginative enterprise, and as it is, since Ferrando is by no means the only Mozart character to know about serenades: an arrangement from *Figaro*, we know, is excessively familiar at Don Giovanni's supper table.

TO HELP celebrate Pushkin's birthday as well as the Prokofiev centenary, Daniel Massey and Prunella Scales were brought to join the BBC Symphony Orchestra with Gennady Rozhdestvensky. They spoke lines of Pushkin's verse and prose in French and English to enliven the suite *Pushkiniana*: an arrangement created by the conductor from pieces of music that Prokofiev had written for film and theatre projects at the time of the poet's centenary in 1937.

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tion of an early piano piece. Suggestive of *diabolique*, from Op. 4; a kind of "danse macabre" for somewhat extravagant resources that included four accordionists as well as six percussionists in the orchestra. This was prefaced by Massey reciting Pushkin's "Devils", to which he brought rather more range of character than was achieved by any other instrumental panoply. It made for agreeably diverting listening, recorded for later broadcasting on Radio 3.

The speakers made much of the story of the young Marina and the Pretender Dmitry from *Boris Godunov*, leading into Prokofiev's Polonaise with its romantic writing for alto and baritone saxophones. The dances from his *Queen of Spades* film music includes a polka, quirky but hauntingly scored for prominent harpsichord on top of wind in

## IOE Jackson's name has gone cold

JOE Jackson's name has gone cold, which is a shame, not least because creatively he is going through a purple patch. Without a hit since 1983's "Steppin' Out" (from *Night and Day*) he has nevertheless quietly minted two of the best albums of his career: *Blaze of Glory* (1989), and *Laughter and Lust* released last month.

His fair-weather supporters may have melted away, but at Hammer-smith the coterie of fans who have remained loyal greeted his appearance with the sort of vociferous enthusiasm that is usually only encountered at a Bob Dylan or Van Morrison concert.

The show began with a reminder of past glories. Jackson, seated alone at an electric piano, gave a poignant reading of "Steppin' Out" and was then joined by Micki Jostyn for an exhilarating duet of "It's Different for Girls." With percussionists Sue Hadjopoulos and bassist Graham Mahy joining in, they romped through a breathless, Latin-tinged version of "Got the Time" (an old Jackson song which recently proved an unlikely success for speed-metal barons Anthrax).

At last, after a furious free-form free-for-all-link, the other musicians were all in for the first of the new material, "Obvious Song", a typically caustic observation on today's caring, himself to be very much a man of fashion.

The problem is that music today is far less closely entwined with amusement and charm. There are composers who might rise to the challenge, and some of them are on Gyldebourne's list: the Dove piece, by all accounts, worked well played out in the gardens on Saturday evening. Osborne, however, has interpreted the commission as an opportunity to write for the period instruments (or, as he rightly points out, the reproductions of period instruments) used by the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment in both Gyldebourne's opening productions this year.

*His Albanian Nights* is a ten-minute study in old-new colours, blendings and the mistunings that result when allegedly the same note is played by horns of different key. It has its bursts of rude folk-musical energy, credibly

sharing breed of millionaire pop star. A man who has always dodged the easy clichés in his music, Jackson also likes playfully to subvert the usual modes of rock 'n' roll presentation. Engulfed in a clownishly baggy ensemble, he poured and drank several cups of herbal tea between numbers. Not a performer to start yelling "Put your hands together, London," he bantered with the audience with both wit and prickle, evoking a remarkably intimate atmosphere for this big hall. The canoodling couples, like Jackson a little wiser and a lot older than during their punkier salad days, hung dutifully on every word.

There was an amusing passage when "Rant and Rave" mutated into a part version of the *Mission Impossible* theme, one of several throwaway gestures which demonstrated how cooperative the band was. Special credit was due to guitarist Tom Dealey, who has evidently had a Jeff Buckley album or two, and a drummer named Hickey, a graduate of the Simon Phillips school of musical technique. Hickey and Hadjopoulos's rhythmic interplay was a constant delight before them, most notably on the urgent Latin tug of "My House" and the thunderous, at all too-brief burst of Peter Green's "Oh Well."

A long show of unremitting excellence ended with an appeal "I'm the Man" and then a gentle "Slow Song" during which the band drifted offstage one by one, until only Jackson was left, alone again, naturally.

DAVID SINCLAIR

likewise, though there is no connection with the opera beyond this element of disguise and, of course, the title. The *Traviata* is really not a serenade at all, but a concert work which the OAE could well use to break up and estrange their 19th-century programmes. Mostly because at the top of it is something as bombastic as the delayed detonation of an awareness that we live in something very different from this orchestra's enlightened age. At Glyndebourne it was played in the organ room (it is certainly not outdoor music) to a small seated audience and to many more straggling through their picnic blankets. The splendour of the score could not have been more dramatically exposed. And then there was the marvellous *Traviata*, about which John Higgins wrote that just justified enthusiasm.

PAUL GRIFFITHS



Affectionate baton: Rozhdestvensky

Midway through his first set, Coulter even got to grips with a didgeridoo. The multi-cultural mystery tour began to lose some of its novelty value after four or five numbers. The Scottish singer Iain White serves up this sort of bar-room entertainment with a good deal more emotional commitment. Nevertheless, Arthur knows his market. I suspect he will be at the stadium league before too long. Post-modernism held sway again on Sunday lunchtime, when the eccentric Soviet pianist Sergei Kuryokhin breezed in for a solo set. A classically trained player, Kuryokhin acquired a cult following in 1981 when his album *The Ways of Freedom* was released. On his debut tour of the

ed by Frank Zappa and John Zorn. Though he has a reputation as a vicious champion of the avant-garde, Kuryokhin was in a whimsical zone of mind in Camden. He is especially fond of epic improvisations that meander from 19th-century romanticism to strident piano and chaotic motifs reminiscent of Keith Jarrett. Making sense of the conflict elements was no easy task, sometimes it was more fruitful to stop looking for a logical structure, and to imagine that Kuryokhin was accompanying a silent film, full of mouse-twirling villains and comedians making pratfalls.

CLIVE DAVIS

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By NEIL KELLY IN BANGKOK AND HARVEY ELLIOTT

# Thatcher supports Baltics

Mrs Thatcher continued to delight the Russians by referring to Chequers as her former "dacha", quoting Pushkin's panegyric to Adam Smith, and preaching her philosophy of free enterprise and self-help — all beneath a portrait of Karl Marx at the parliament building.

Donald McIntosh, aged 43, was on secondment from the Home Office to the UN International Drug Control Programme, a Vienna-based agency. Mr McIntosh's position as a senior field adviser in Bangkok was unlikely to be directly affected by the shake-up, which began earlier this year. He worked primarily on crop substitution programmes in the Golden Triangle, trying to encourage farmers to grow fruit and vegetables instead of opium poppies.

Mr Terry, who draws inspiration from Italian classical architecture, described the cathedral as a "variation on early Italian renaissance and the English baroque of Wren". As with all his buildings, he used traditional materials. The cathedral would last for many centuries if properly

Two features which echo Wren's style are the lantern at

The diocese of Brentwood was formed in 1917 by the division of the archdiocese of Westminster and is made up of the county of Essex and the greater London boroughs of Barking, Havering, Newham,

Friday's service will begin with the pealing of a new bell, Gabriel, which has been hung in the Gothic tower and is inscribed with a verse from St Mark's Gospel: "Go out to the whole world; proclaim the good news."

**Next frontier:** Technology editor Nick Nuttall reports on Soviet plans for what is claimed to be the most ambitious unmanned space mission so far launched, involving a complex docking operation 250 miles above the Earth and a mock rescue of cosmonauts from a Soyuz capsule



● BUSINESS AND FINANCE 21-27  
● LAW 35  
● FOCUS: BRISTOL 28,29  
● SPORT 36-40

## Takeover Panel will not rule on ICI

THE Takeover Panel has refused to become embroiled in the controversy surrounding Lord Hanson buying a 2.8 per cent stake in ICI, Britain's flagship industrial company.

The panel is not commenting on statements reportedly made by Lord Hanson and his partner Lord White last week. Lord Hanson said he did not want to embark on "a big hostile bid". A spokesman for the panel said comment was deemed "unnecessary".

Although it was reported that Lord Hanson proposed a merger with ICI when the two camps met last Tuesday, it is understood no such proposal was made.

Sir Denis Henderson, ICI's chairman, and senior executives met their advisors yesterday to discuss the company's next move in what has developed into a war of nerves rather than a takeover battle. The company's best defence against any move by Hanson is to implement already promised restructuring to refocus and galvanise the group for the next decade.

## Westland slips

Westland Group, the helicopter manufacturer, reports a slip in interim pre-tax profits from £11.5 million to £9.4 million to end March, after a £3.4 million redundancy provision. Shareholders will receive an unchanged interim dividend of 1.25p a share.

The group has also won a \$200 million contract to supply engine pods for the Saab 2000 jet prop aircraft being built by General Motors.

Tempos, page 23

## Asda 'as usual'

ASDA Group, the target of renewed takeover speculation, said it is not concerned about trading in its stock yesterday after an increase from the usual daily traded volume of around 5 million to 11 million. Asda said: "There's been a lot of speculative comment... but it's very much business as usual round here."

Tempos, page 23  
City Diary, page 23

## THE POUND

US dollar 1.7435 (+0.0135)  
German mark 2.9614 (+0.0048)  
Exchange index 92.0 (+0.2)

## MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:  
News Corp 377p (+21p)  
Lester Wigley 200p (+10p)  
Jacques Vert 209p (+8p)  
Barclays 437p (+8p)  
Brown Shipley 251p (+8p)  
Lloyds 344p (+8p)  
Medeva 158p (+8p)  
FALLS:  
Aldwoods 208p (-18p)  
Independent 315p (-5p)  
LASCO 211p (-8p)  
First Technology 480p (-10p)  
Tarmac 515p (-5p)  
Enterprise 102p (-7p)  
Ultramar 258p (-5p)  
Ratners Group 525p (-7p)  
Laporte 589p (-8p)  
Henry Boot 248p (-17p)  
A McAlpine 248p (-17p)

## STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share 1937.0 (+4.5)  
FT-SE 100 2479.7 (+8.6)  
New York Dow Jones 2927.33 (+13.42)  
Tokyo Nikkei Avg 2530.67 (-35.21)

## INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base 11 1/2%  
3-month Interbank 11 1/2-11 3/4%  
3-month eligible bills 10 1/2-10 3/4%  
US: Prime Rate 5 1/2%  
Federal Funds 5 1/4%  
3-month Treasury Bill 5.38-5.39%  
30-year bonds 9 1/2-9 5/8%

## CURRENCIES

London: New York  
£ \$1.7435  
£ DM1.9350  
£ Sfr1.4521  
£ FF10.0530  
£ Yen137.85  
£ Index52.0  
ECU £1.5403  
£ SDR1.43190  
£ SDR1.43190

## GOLD

London Fixing:  
AM \$358.30 pm \$355.85  
30-day 250.25-300.75 (230.60-307.10)  
New York:  
Comex \$359.75-360.25

## NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Jan) \$18.05 bbl (\$18.00)  
Dutchess latest trading price

## RETAIL PRICES

RPI: 133.1 April (1987=100)

## Tombs fields shareholder criticism over dismissal notices to workforce

# Rolls chief to take 10% cut in basic pay

By ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

LORD Tombs, chairman of Rolls-Royce, the aero-engine manufacturer, is to take a 10 per cent cut in his basic pay of £150,000 this year.

He revealed his decision at the company's annual meeting in London, where he faced more than an hour of critical questioning over the company's restructuring.

Shareholders charged that the board's decision to issue dismissal notices, since withdrawn, to all 34,000 aerospace employees in order to implement a six-month pay freeze had been a public relations disaster which had damaged the company's relationship with its workforce.

Lord Tombs said his fellow directors had agreed to forgo a pay rise this year and that several hundred senior managers would be restricted to pay increases of 5 per cent.

After the meeting, Lord Tombs said of his own pay cut: "I thought it was appropriate. The company was not doing terribly well."

Rolls-Royce pre-tax profits for the year to end-December

fell by 24.5 per cent to £176 million. The pay cut was revealed amid complaints from shareholders that the accounts showed a 54 per cent rise in Lord Tombs' pay, to £180,064. Other directors had increases averaging 24 per cent, the meeting heard. However, the chairman responded that the increases were largely caused by profit-related bonuses earned during 1989, which had been a good year for the company. No bonuses would be paid in 1990.

Lord Tombs rejected suggestions that the directors were overpaid. "This year, so far, three of my colleagues have been approached by outside headhunters," he said. "The reason they have not taken these offers is pure loyalty to the company."

However, the persistence of the criticism suggests that shareholders are becoming increasingly willing to question directors' pay increases, especially where companies are not performing well.

In his statement to shareholders, Lord Tombs said 1991 was proving a difficult year. The downturn in civil

airline passengers had caused airlines to defer orders for perhaps 20 aircraft, and purchases of engine spares, normally one of the most profitable parts of the business, had fallen. Defence markets were in disarray.

The company's situation was made worse by inflation and wage increases in advance of its American competitors.

"The resulting effects on our profits and cashflow are severe and may continue well into 1992," he said. However, the order book remained strong and the company's industrial power group, centred on NEL, was performing well.

Lord Tombs said the company's "unhappy" decision to axe 6,000 workers from its aerospace workforce was necessary to maintain Rolls' competitive position. He said he had made ministers aware of the company's difficulties at every opportunity.

The response from shareholders gathered at the Queen Elizabeth II conference centre was often passionate, but invariably polite. Many, but by no means all of the critics, were drawn from the 80 per cent of the workforce who own shares in the company.

"I find it disturbing that the families' livelihoods of the entire workforce were called into question," said one. Lord Tombs did not regret the letter, but said it was now clear that the freeze could be implemented by negotiation with trade unions.

However, some shareholders, such as Sylvia Adams, from Hove, were persistent. After speaking of the "misery" endured by the workforce, she said: "Surely there must have been a better way to do it."

Many of the attacks centred upon Rolls' decision to close its helicopter engine manufacturing capacity at Leamington, Hertfordshire, and move production elsewhere.

Purchase of the freehold of the site, which is only partly occupied by Rolls-Royce, was completed just six weeks ago. There were suggestions that Rolls hoped to make tens of millions of pounds by selling it for redevelopment. Lord Tombs declined to be drawn on the price paid, or the likely value of the vacant site.



Show of workforce: Rolls-Royce workers make their feelings clear over the decision to cut jobs at Leamington

## Failures rise by two-thirds within year

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

INSOLVENCIES among British companies rose by almost two-thirds in the past year, according to government figures announced yesterday. The accelerating number of company failures — for the first time, more than 5,000 have collapsed in a single quarter — indicate that the recession may not yet have bottomed out.

Figures from the trade and industry department on corporate insolvencies, published yesterday for the department by the Association of British Chambers of Commerce, provide a year-on-year look at company failures since they started to rise markedly in the first quarter last year.

Then 3,265 companies went out of business. Since then, the total number of insolvencies is 17,124, which represents 1.8 per cent of the number of active companies, and 1.5 per cent of the total of registered companies. Year-on-year, the number of insolvencies shows an increase of almost two-thirds, 63.5 per cent on the first quarter last year.

In the first quarter this year, company failures rose about 5,000 for the first time. Seasonally-adjusted figures from the department show that the number of companies going out of business rose from 4,470 in the final three months of last year to 5,338 in the first quarter of this year. This is a rise of 19.4 per cent, close to double the previous increase of 10.9 per cent.

Ron Taylor, chambers of commerce director, general, said of failures in the first quarter: "The insolvency figures give cause for grave concern. The fact that they exceed 5,000 for the first time is concerning enough but worse is the rate of increase. There are no signs of any levelling off."

Company liquidations at 2,061 were up over the year from 1,258 in the first quarter of 1990, while creditors' voluntary liquidations were also up, from 2,007 in the first three months of last year to 3,277 over the year.

## Bundesbank hardliner chosen to succeed Pöhl

By WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU, EUROPEAN BUSINESS CORRESPONDENT

HELMUT Schlesinger, the Bundesbank's most outspoken monetary hardliner, is to succeed Karl Otto Pöhl as the bank's president from November, in a move which marks an attempt by the German authorities to signal continuity in the country's economic policy.

Professor Schlesinger, who will be 67 in September, has been the bank's vice-president since 1980. It is believed that he will be offered a two-year contract rather than the usual term of eight years.

The announcement, which came after Herr Pöhl's surprise resignation two weeks ago, was made yesterday by government sources in Bonn, who spoke after a meeting of the governing coalition, which includes Chancellor Helmut Kohl's CDU party, the Bavarian CSU and the liberal FDP. The cabinet is expected to rubber stamp the decision at a meeting today. The appointment will be formally announced by Germany's president next week.

The coalition partners also agreed to appoint Hans

Tietmeyer, currently a Bundesbank director and formerly state secretary in the finance ministry, as vice-president. Until last week, Dr Tietmeyer was the front runner for the succession, although it is believed that the government opted for Professor Schlesinger in an attempt to signal continuity and also to reward his 39-year loyal service at Germany's central bank. Dr Tietmeyer has now emerged as the future strongman at the helm of the Bundesbank and his succession to the presidency is expected to take effect in the autumn of 1993.

However, despite the wide respect Professor Schlesinger commands in Germany's conservative banking circles, there has been some concern among economists that the government has opted for a temporary appointment at a time when it is facing some of the toughest choices in economic policy in modern history. The government is currently wrestling with the challenges of rising domestic inflation, the reconstruction

of Eastern Germany and attempts by the European Community to forge a single currency, which the Bundesbank, although supportive in principle, views with some scepticism. There have been suggestions that there will be a greater degree of power sharing between the new president and his deputy, with Professor Schlesinger playing more low key role than Herr Pöhl's. The appointment came after a year in which the relationship between the Bundesbank and the government had deteriorated sharply — beginning with a disagreement over the exchange rate for German monetary union and culminating in Herr Pöhl's recent remarks that German monetary union was a disaster. The Bundesbank and the government have also disagreed over the proposed reform of the bank's internal structure. Such disagreements are thought to have played a part in Herr Pöhl's resignation, which he claimed was "for personal reasons".

Line of succession, page 23

## US consumer index falls

By ANATOLE KALETSKY, ECONOMICS EDITOR

AMERICAN consumer confidence has fallen for the second month running, after its record-breaking surge in the wake of the Gulf war.

The conference board's consumer confidence index fell to 74.2 in May from 79.4 in April, encouraging gains in the bond market but falls in the dollar.

Fabian Linden, executive director of the conference board's consumer research centre, said: "The euphoria which followed the victory in the Gulf is wearing off."

"Given the recent messages

that we have been receiving from consumers, the suggestion that the recession is 'bottoming out' may still be somewhat premature."

In Germany, the cost of living index rose 0.3 per cent in May, after a rise of 0.5 per cent in April.

The May index was up 2.9 per cent from a year earlier, marking the highest annual inflation rate since 3 per cent last November.

Economists expect western German inflation to rise further, possibly as high as 4 per cent in July when a series of

indirect tax increases takes effect.

But Helmut Schlesinger, the Bundesbank's vice-president, who will take over from Karl Otto Pöhl, the outgoing president, in October, said in a newspaper interview on Monday that he expected that inflation would remain below 4 per cent.

France announced a sharply reduced trade deficit of £12.07 billion in April, down from £14.22 billion in March.

The trade figures included the first trade surplus with Germany in recent times.

## Goldsmith rides the gold train

By COLIN CAMPBELL

SIR James Goldsmith is back on the gold wagon. In a \$1.3 billion paper deal last October, he swapped his forestry interests with Hanson for 42 per cent of Newmont Mining, America's largest gold producer. Sir James is now involved in a \$4.89 billion paper deal that concerns gold operations in Nevada, America, which would create the second-largest gold mining company in the world.

Sir James and associates, holding 49 per cent of Newmont, are in talks with American Barrick Resources, Peter Munk's company, concerning "a pooling of interests" based solely on a share exchange. Barrick would own 52 per cent of the merged group. Suggested terms are 1.8 shares in American Barrick for each Newmont Mining share. Newmont has a market capitalisation of \$2.26 billion

and American Barrick a market capitalisation of \$2.63 billion. A merger between Barrick and Newmont Mining could also include Newmont Gold, Newmont's 90.1 per cent owned company, that would involve the offer of 1.845 Barrick shares for each share in Newmont Gold.

The logic of a merger is the combination of the gold mining interests of Newmont and Barrick along the Carlin Trend in Nevada, a noted and rich gold area in which the companies have adjoining properties. A merger would create a group second only to Free State Consolidated Gold Mines, owned by the Anglo American group in South Africa.

American Barrick aims to produce more than 1 million ounces of gold next year from its six producing mines, and has proven and probable gold



Sir James Goldsmith deal reserves in the Carlin Trend of 17.9 million ounces.

Newmont has a current annual gold production of 1.5 million ounces, and proven and probable gold reserves in the Carlin Trend totalling 18.9 million ounces. Both companies point out there are some substantive issues yet to be resolved. Speculation on an impending deal involving Sir James, Newmont and Barrick,

involving the Carlin Trend, was first reported in *The Times* last Wednesday. There was further publicity in London yesterday, leading to the joint Newmont Barrick announcement of a possible merger.

Sir James will not have fared especially well with his gold interests since buying Newmont shares valued at \$39 each last October. At the time, his General Oriental Investments company said it was the "intention to reduce, in due course, its holding in Newmont so as to further diversify its investments".

Since October, when gold was about \$365 an ounce, the gold price has had a brief flurry over \$400. Yesterday, gold traded at \$355.65 an ounce.

American Barrick, however, has acquired an international investment following because of its operational and financial expertise.

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# EDF may join British Coal to build test plant

By BRONWEN JONES

BRITISH Coal is in talks with EDF Electricité de France, the French state-run electricity generator, about building a commercial-scale plant to test technology to improve power station efficiency by 20 per cent.

EDF is working on the project in a consortium with Charbonnages de France, the French coal producer, and Stein Industrie, a manufacturer of combustion equipment. A decision is expected in July.

The talks come a few weeks after the system prototype successfully

completed a 300-hour run. The pressurised gasifier at the Coal Research Establishment in Stoke Orchard, Gloucestershire, converts up to 80 per cent of coal into gas and is an important part of the British Coal Topping cycle, which "tops up" generating capacity.

Although the gas produced has only an eighth the calorific value of natural gas, it burns in the specially designed turbine.

EDF, with its heavy nuclear bias, wants to diversify its power sources. The talks were initially about collaboration on a circulating fluidised

bed system, as used in the Topping cycle plant design.

The facility operating on a commercial scale would not necessarily have a gasifier, as this concept is still being tested.

The Topping cycle research to date has been funded by British Coal (£14 million), the energy department (£11.4 million), PowerGen (£0.7 million) and Electric Power Research Institute of California (£0.25 million).

The full integrated combustion plant has not yet been demonstrated, but individual compo-

nents have, over the past two and a half years.

The plant improves efficiency from a maximum of 37 per cent in a conventional pulverised fuel station to a predicted 45 per cent. The difference could result in at least 20 per cent lower generating costs. By improving efficiency, British Coal hopes coal will be better able to resist competition from gas as the preferred fuel for new power stations.

Up to 95 per cent of the sulphur would be retained by limestone in the fluidised bed, eventually leading

to coal ash rich in calcium sulphate,

which could be sold to the construction industry.

Waste material collected from the Topping cycle amounts to about 10 per cent of the weight of material fed in.

British Coal hopes to secure more British government funding but gained a new partner in the venture on May 16 when Stein Industrie, owned by GEC Alsthom, a joint venture between General Electric Company of Britain, and Alcatel-Alsthom of France, joined the consortium.

## BUSINESS ROUNDUP

### Unemployment total 'will rise to almost 3m'

UNEMPLOYMENT will rise to almost 3 million and will remain at that level for some time, according to the latest economic forecast by Cambridge Econometrics, published today, which is considerably more pessimistic than government estimates about prospects for recovery. Cambridge Econometrics, an independent forecasting body, warns that any further credit squeeze, which is suggested by the banks' poor financial position at present, will endanger the prospects of recovery, and says that it "represents a real risk" to the upturn predicted by the government. The Cambridge group says that unemployment will average 2.9 million next year and remain at that figure in 1993, then fall gradually to 1.9 million by 2000.

### James Dickie loses £57,000

JAMES Dickie, the Scottish forger to castings group, has passed its interim dividend after making a pre-tax loss of £57,000 in the six months to end February against profits of £38,000 in the six months to end April last year. The interim dividend last time was 1.0125p. Turnover increased to £16.2 million from £13.6 million. There is a 0.9p loss per share (1.1p loss).

### Navan starts mining talks

NAVAN Resources, the Irish explorer, has started joint venture discussions with Hungary's state-owned industrial mining company covering gypsum/anhydrite, silica sand and manganese deposits. Navan has also signed three agreements relating to precious and base metal projects in Bulgaria, and has targeted several mines in Romania for further investigation.

### Owners Abroad buys

OWNERS Abroad, Britain's second-biggest tour operator, has bought Olympic Holidays for up to £10 million. Olympic specialises in holidays in Greece and Cyprus and is the country's eleventh-biggest tour operator. The company made pre-tax profits of £680,000 in the year to the end of October and had net liabilities of £3.46 million. The minimum price under the three-year, profit-related formula is £1 million. Owners Abroad, which already owns Falcon, Sovereign and Summed, was granted an option to buy Olympic's entire share capital in December.

### Rolfe rises to £1.45m

ROLFE & Nolan Computer Services, the futures and options computer bureau and software specialist, off-set depressed demand in the City by increasing its share of the European market. In the year to end February, taxable profits rose from £1.14 million to £1.45 million and earnings from 13.8p a share to 17.7p. A final dividend of 3.5p makes a total of 5.6p (4.3p).

### Unidare deal expected

UNIDARE, the Dublin cables and electrical products group, is in discussions likely to lead to the acquisition of Hoek Loos Lestechniek, the welding division of Hoek Loos, the Dutch industrial and medical gases group. David Rutledge, Unidare's chief executive, said annual turnover for the welding division was about 14 million guilders (£4.2 million).

### Simon expands in US

SIMON Engineering has bought Hydro-Search, an American groundwater and environmental consulting business, for \$10.3 million. A further \$1.25 million is payable depending on the results for the 12 months to July 31. In the six months to January 31, Hydro-Search made pre-tax profits of \$705,000 on sales of \$7 million. The company serves clients in the mining, waste disposal, transport and manufacturing industries. Simon said the acquisition would strengthen its American consulting activities.

## Fears grow of US tariff on Airbus if subsidies continue

By HARVEY ELLIOTT, AIR CORRESPONDENT

FEARS are growing that the United States is preparing to impose a crippling "tax" on all Airbus jets that are sold within the country because of what it regards as continued state subsidies granted to the European consortium that makes the jets.

If the tariff barriers being demanded by an increasing number of American politicians and manufacturers are imposed, a much wider and damaging trade war could be triggered.

Negotiations aimed at removing what the Americans see as unfair aid given to the Airbus consortium, in which British Aerospace has a 25 per cent stake, have dragged on for more than five years with little success.

The dispute has now burst into an open confrontation that Airbus sees as a deliberate attempt to damage the potential of a proposed 700-seat Airbus project, planned as the first direct competitor to the Boeing 747, before it is even launched.

American airlines would be key potential customers for the jet, especially if it was cheaper than any rivals that American manufacturers were then able to offer.

A tariff barrier against the jet being sold there, together with pressure on other customers round the world by America could seriously limit the aircraft's potential sales, and therefore its viability.

American trade officials

have been particularly stung by renewed Airbus claims that both Boeing and McDonnell Douglas have received support amounting to \$23 billion through government research contracts designed for military aircraft whose results eventually found their way into commercial projects.

They have denied the claims and are seeking action under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) to have future Airbus subsidies outlawed.

Jean Pierson, managing director of Airbus Industrie, said: "These attacks come, strangely enough, at a time when the long distance, four-engined A340, which will fly in October this year, begins to chip away at Boeing's monopoly on the long haul sector. Over the horizon, by the year 2000, with the 700-seater plus aircraft, which we are studying presently, we will be taking them head on in this market segment."

He added: "The partners in Airbus have never hidden the financial support they receive from their respective governments. It is public knowledge. In the US, in contrast, an opaque fog hides the indirect support procured to civil aircraft manufacturers through government agencies."

His allegations, especially that Boeing and McDonnell Douglas received indirect government support, have outraged both politicians and aerospace companies in

America.

Clayton Yeutter, the American trade representative, said: "Allegations that the US government is indirectly supporting Boeing and McDonnell Douglas civil programmes through military spending are a transparent fallacy to justify the enormous subsidies of Airbus programmes by the governments of France, Germany, Spain and the United Kingdom."

"The longer those governments delay in coming to grips with their own subsidies for Airbus the more they heighten the risk of a major trade conflict. US companies should not have to compete with these government-subsidised entities."

Raymond Waldmann, director of government affairs for Boeing, described M Pierson's allegations as "pure hokum" and "nonsense".

Airbus, he claimed, has received \$25.9 billion in direct subsidies, and while the consortium itself may not have done work for the military its individual member companies certainly had and could share overhead costs and production facilities between defence and commercial activities.

He added: "If this important trade dispute is to be settled amicably through negotiations, the focus must remain on that \$25.9 billion support and its long-term effects on international fair trade."

In an effort to head off direct action being taken by America, the Europeans have offered to redraft part of the GATT civil aircraft agreement limiting direct support by governments for research and development of new programmes to 45 per cent of their total costs.

Already launch aid, which had originally been 100 per cent, has been cut to a maximum of 60 per cent.

The Americans, however, have rejected the proposal. They are pushing for an immediate maximum of 25 per cent and they want no aid at all to be available for the proposed 700-seater jet.

### Stake is taken in HIT

MIKE Luckwell, former managing director of Carlton Communications, has taken 17 per cent of HIT Communications, a distributor and co-producer of children's television programmes.

HIT, with United Artists, RTE and Flextech, is bidding for the Wales and West ITV franchise, now held by ITV. HIT has refused to disclose the value of Mr Luckwell's stake.

### Great Western makes a loss

Great Western Resources, the American oil, gas and coal company that is quoted in London, dived into the red with a pre-tax loss of \$7.31 million in the six months to end March, against a pre-tax income of \$8.48 million previously.

Total revenues declined from \$81 million to \$78.5 million. There is a loss per share of 8 cents against earnings of 9 cents last time. The interim dividend is maintained at 2.5p gross. The shares lost 2p to 114p.

### Meekatharra is raising £1m

Meekatharra Minerals, the Australian group with interests in the Ballymoney lignite (brown coal) development in Northern Ireland, is making a \$25.27 million (£1.12 million) rights issue, on the basis of one-for-ten at Aus\$1.15 a share, to fund development projects, including Ballymoney.



Room with a view: Neil Robinson, chairman of Metro Radio, contemplates profits

## Profits turn down at Metro Radio

METRO Radio Group, which bought the Yorkshire Radio Network in a £16 million deal last October, says it did well on the trading front in the six months to end March but that pre-tax profits fell because of higher interest paid (Colin Campbell writes). At the trad-

ing level, profits rose from £725,000 to £782,000 on turnover of £5.7 million (£3.87 million), Neil Robinson, the chairman, said.

Interest charges of £73,000 against a previous receipt of £212,000 saw interim pre-tax profits fall to £709,000

(£937,000). At the net level, fully diluted earnings were 3.01p (5.84p) a share. The interim dividend is held at 1.5p. Since the end of the Gulf war, there have been signs of some recovery in advertising.

Temper, page 23

## 3i picks Barings to advise on float

By NEIL BENNETT, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

THE 3i Group, Britain's largest and oldest venture capital investor, has appointed Barings, the merchant bank, to advise it on a future flotation.

The 3i board has asked Barings' corporate finance team to act as general financial advisers but the bank's first task is to produce a report to outline the company's options for a float this year or next. The report will be masterminded by Andrew Tuckey, the chairman of Barings' main merchant banking subsidiary. Barings has replaced SG Warburg, 3i's traditional adviser.

3i is owned by the Bank of England and the high street clearing banks, and the timing for any flotation will have to be agreed between them. 3i's directors have delayed float-

ation plans during the recession but the recovery in the economy and the stock market has made them keen to seek a listing as soon as possible.

The company feels prospects after the recession and an improvement in figures will attract investors to the float. In the year to end March 1990 the company's investment return slumped by 82 per cent to £41 million.

Some of the banks are thought keen to realise their holdings to improve their capital ratios. David Marlow, the chief executive, confirmed that 3i was in favour of a flotation but had not decided on the timing with the banks.

"We are still on good terms with Warburg," he said, "but we have a high regard for Barings as a house."



David Marlow of 3i: a "high regard" for Barings

## Bank faces enquiry into MGM role

From REUTER IN AMSTERDAM

THE Amsterdam Stock Exchange is probing the role of Credit Lyonnais Bank Nederland (CLBN) in a debt reduction agreement under which Credit Lyonnais will try to sell the Italian financier's 40 per cent stake.

Boudewijn van Iersum, the stock exchange chairman, said: "We have asked CLBN for further clarification... on the involvement of the company in financing (the MGM takeover)." CLBN confirmed that the bank had received a letter from the stock exchange but refused all comment.

## Creditors meet over Polly

By ANGELA MACKAY

SIXTEEN members of Polly Peck International's new creditors committee will hold their inaugural meeting today to set an agenda for the rehabilitation of the collapsed fresh fruit, hotels and electronics company.

Only five of the committee are formal members with voting power: Standard Chartered Bank, Credit Suisse First Boston, Société Générale, Rabobank Nederland, and SG Warburg Soditic, which represents a big proportion of Polly Peck's bondholders. Together, the five speak for about £150 million of the company's total debt of £1.3 billion.

The other 11 were co-opted by the administrators to represent shareholders, small creditors and banks. They are Crédit Agricole, Arab Banking Corp, Friends Provident, Bayerische Vereinsbank, Banco Bilbao Vizcaya, National Bank of Canada, Postal, Fidelity Investment Services, Riggs AP Bank, William Grosvenor (who was Polly Peck's public relations consultant) and First City Bank of Texas.

Last Friday, the administrators obtained creditors' permission to implement a scheme to try to extract maximum value from the company. The plan involves splitting the company into five divisions.

## British sector down on month North Sea oil output falls to two-year low

By MARTIN BARROW

OIL output in the British sector of the North Sea fell by nearly a quarter in April to its lowest level for two years.

The Royal Bank of Scotland's monthly oil index estimated output last month at 1.6 million barrels per day, compared with 2.07 million bpd in March. The fall was caused by the closure of some oilfields for scheduled maintenance and the installation of safety equipment ordered by the Cullen report, which looked into safety in North Sea oil fields after the Piper Alpha disaster.

The most significant was Shell's Brent complex, which had only recently come back to peak production after a shutdown in August last year. Throughput at the Sullom Voe landfill, Shetland, more than halved.

The decline in output reduced the daily value of North Sea oil production from £21.5 million in March to £17.5 million, despite slightly higher average prices of \$19.20 a barrel, compared with \$19.


Grant Baird, chief economist of the Royal Bank,

forecast that output would remain depressed this year as maintenance and safety work continued. Although BP began work in the Forties field in January, and Shell made progress in the Brent field, work was due to begin on the Ninian field, operated by Chevron, soon. He added, however, that the North Sea was experiencing "an artificial down-cycle" and that underlying trends still pointed to rising output for several years.

The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries estimates the call on its oil in the fourth quarter of this year at 24 million bpd, about 500,000 barrels more than its current output.

At a conference in Isfahan, Iran, attended by oil ministers from six Opec member countries, officials gave a warning that demand from industrial nations might not be met if the international embargo on Iraq remained in place during the final three months of the year.

Opec will discuss the level of supply needed to defend oil prices at its biannual meeting in Vienna next Tuesday.



**Base Rate**

**BCC announces that from 28th May 1991 its base rate is changed from 12% to 11.5% p.a.**

BANK OF CREDIT AND COMMERCE INTERNATIONAL  
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AIB Bank announces that with effect from close of business on 24th May 1991 its Base Rate was reduced from 12% to 11.5% p.a.



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Telephone (0895) 72222  
And branches throughout the country.

AIB Bank is the business name of Allied Irish Banks, p.l.c. Incorporated in Ireland. Registered Office, Bankcentre, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4. Registered in Ireland, Number 24173. Member of IMRO.

## National Westminster Bank Mortgage Rate

With effect from 28 May 1991 for new borrowers, and from 1 July for existing borrowers, the NatWest Mortgage Rate payable under current Mortgage Deeds and Conditions of Offer will be reduced from 12.95% to 12.45%. This change will be reflected in existing borrowers' repayments from 5 or 22 July 1991.

**National Westminster Home Loans Limited**  
41 Lothbury, London EC2P 2BP.



## Airbus needs an olive branch

### COMMENT

It is hardly surprising that the American administration and its leading planemakers are furious about state aid to the European Airbus consortium. For after a shaky start, Airbus has thrived and now poses a significant threat to American domination of the civil aircraft market. Indeed, there are those who feel that McDonnell Douglas, the smaller of the two leading American companies, may eventually be forced to seek a merger in the face of increasingly tough Airbus competition.

Boeing has, so far, fared better. It has managed to prevent Airbus from winning substantial orders from the biggest American international carriers and its 747 jumbo remains unrivalled as the backbone of many airline long-haul scheduled services. However, even Boeing's domination in this segment of the market is threatened by plans for a jumbo-sized Airbus that would carry 700 passengers.

Europe has been unashamedly open about the launch aid and other subsidies provided to its home-grown planemakers. But the five-year dispute that has

threatened on so many occasions to derail the Gatt round is now moving towards a new and more dangerous phase. There are genuine fears that America, exasperated at what it sees as lack of progress towards a compromise on subsidies, is considering some artificial trade barriers, such as an import levy against Airbus products.

America should proceed with caution before abandoning efforts to settle the dispute within the Gatt framework.

Any long-term solution must accept that it was a perfectly reasonable European aspiration to promote its own capability in a substantial international business, such as aircraft manufacture. To opt out would also have had a hugely damaging series of repercussions on associated industries, such as materials technology and electronics. Without Airbus, the balance of trade between the EC and America would be heavily

tilted to the advantage of America. And Boeing would have by now established a near monopoly of staggering proportions.

Europe claims America has its own hidden subsidies in the form of state aid to military projects that spill over into the civil field. But, such a stalemate is fruitless. An olive branch or two should be delivered on both sides. The most provocative form of subsidy and the least justifiable, is Germany's exchange rate support for its own Airbus consortium member. This could surely be given a finite and not very long life.

America must consider a phased reduction in the subsidies to Airbus at a slower rate than it has so far been willing to countenance. After all, Airbus has, in commercial terms, just

begun to stand on its own two feet. The big step for Europe, however, is to agree to put the Airbus consortium on a more conventional corporate basis. It would at some future time be able to replace EC member governments as a source of funding by the commercial banking and project finance markets. Such a package has enough for both sides to at least break the present damaging log-jam.

### 3i fears

The directors of 3i group are, they say, laying the groundwork for a flotation, perhaps this year, perhaps next. Whether or not they go ahead hinges on a report being assembled for them by Barings,

the merchant bank. The top men at 3i are, however, much more coy about whether they feel the hot breath of the Labour party at their necks. It has been said many times that 3i, one of the leading venture capital providers in Britain, would, if nationalised, admirably form the body if not the head of an interventionist state-controlled national investment bank.

At present, 3i's main shareholders are the top clearing banks and a state takeover from such a tiny group would be a relatively simple matter to arrange. The exercise would be more difficult and more controversial if the group managed to transfer itself into the hands of a much more widely based ownership via a flotation.

Labour has been relatively silent on the details of its plans for a national investment bank. Perhaps this is as well for it appears to be among the weaker sections of its present industrial

strategy. The lessons of history do not seem to indicate success in the area of promoting rationalisation of sectors or of initiating investment in businesses that the private sector is minded to avoid. What, for example, is the legacy of the National Enterprise Board, Labour's previous attempt to catalyse private enterprise? There have been many efforts to establish whether there exists an investment gap of significant proportions, so that those with a truly bankable proposition are unable to find finance. The Wilson committee concluded, after much toil, that if this gap exists at all it is modest and applies mainly to new and small ventures.

It would, therefore, be essential for 3i to receive some indication from Labour's leaders as to their intentions in this area if the flotation comes to pass before the next election. A prospectus would otherwise be unwritable. Labour's terms for the nationalisation of shipbuilding and aircraft companies in the Seventies were in some cases scandalous. Investors will not risk a re-run.

## Bundesbank line of succession finds its roots deep in tradition

THE Bundesbank has a long tradition of vice-presidential succession. Karl Otto Pöhl, the outgoing head of the central bank, was vice-president between 1977 and 1979 under the presidency of Oskar Emminger. He, in turn, was vice-president under Karl Kläsen from 1970 to 1977. Equally natural was the appointment to the vice-presidency of Hans Tietmeyer, the man widely tipped as Chancellor Kohl's personal favourite for the top job. Herr Tietmeyer's succession into presidency when Helmut Schlesinger retires in two years is, thereby, almost assured.

But there is another pattern in these appointments that sheds more light on the complex relationship between the German political system and the supposedly independent central bank. Both Herr Emminger and Professor Schlesinger were Bundesbank careerists who followed far more flamboyant, political figures. Herr Pöhl was a former business journalist who rose to political prominence and power with the ascendancy of Helmut Schmidt's social democrats in the Seventies. Herr Kläsen had been a close associate of Ludwig Erhard, Dr Tietmeyer was a career civil servant, but owed his rapid advancement to Helmut Kohl, who swept him to the top of the finance ministry and used him as his personal adviser on German unification in 1989.

Professor Schlesinger is cast from a very different mould. In contrast to the genial and ebullient Herr Pöhl, who loves nothing more than delivering joke-laden speeches and hobnobbing with world leaders, Professor Schlesinger is a cantankerous introvert with little experience of public or professional life outside the Bundesbank. He is said to dislike speechmaking, harbours an undisguised suspicion of most politicians and prefers methodical academic discourse to the cut and thrust of public debate.

The Bundesbank's 40-year history demonstrates clearly that all presidents, whether "political" outsiders or lifelong central bankers, tend to discard their allegiances at the front door. They all become



Stepping up: Helmut Schlesinger (left), new Bundesbank chief, with Hans Tietmeyer, who becomes vice-president

loyal servants of the Bundesbank's traditions, and in this sense, the markets may be right to have shrugged off the succession issue.

This time, however, the succession threatened to be more controversial than ever before, for three reasons. First, there were the circumstances of Herr Pöhl's departure,

needed more than ever to signal continuity and an unwavering commitment to the Bundesbank's hard money traditions. To do this no better symbol could be imagined than Professor Schlesinger — an anti-inflationary fanatic whose zeal for price stability and a strong currency made him the butt of jokes not only in the money market but even in the Bundesbank's own canteen.

Professor Schlesinger was born in 1924. After two years of military service during the last two years of the second world war, he studied economics in Munich and became what is known today as one of the republic's *Gründerväter*, or founding fathers, the men of the first hour who under the leadership of Ludwig Erhard, the legendary economics minister during the Fifties, helped creating the *Wirtschaftswunder* and the hard mark. In 1952, Professor Schlesinger joined the Bank of German States, the Bundesbank's forerunner organisation, and at the Bundesbank he became chief economist in 1964. He

was appointed director in 1972 and vice-president in 1980.

Professor Schlesinger, aged 66, had probably long since abandoned hopes of rising to the top post at his beloved Bundesbank and was widely expected to retire within the next year. But all that changed a year ago as the central bank

this period that Herr Pöhl considered resignation for the first time.

During the remainder of the year, the Bundesbank grew wary of the rising public sector deficit. More recently another row erupted over a proposal by Herr Pöhl to restructure and streamline the Bundesbank's rather bureaucratic internal organisation.

But, perhaps the most significant development during the past year, was a subtle shift in the balance of power over economic policy, from Frankfurt to Bonn. This might be one of the reasons why the president of the Bundesbank is perhaps a less important figure than sometimes assumed. The other reason is, as Herr Pöhl said, that the president has only one vote in a council of 18. His task is one of persuasion and representation. To add this political skill to his unquestionable credentials as an economist and a central banker will now be Professor Schlesinger's most daunting task.

WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU AND ANATOLE KALETSKY

All presidents, whether "political" outsiders or lifelong bankers, tend to discard their allegiances at the front door

The government needed to signal continuity and an unwavering commitment to the Bundesbank's hard money traditions

## THE TIMES CITY DIARY

### Sir Ian's point of principle

SIR Ian MacLaurin, the chairman of Tesco, returned from holiday to speculation that he has been building up a personal stake in Asda, which is being tipped for a takeover. Weekend press reports said that he held 100,000 shares in the company. "I have never bought any shares in Asda and have no intention of buying any," says Sir Ian, aged 54, who began work at Tesco loading fruit and vegetables on to trucks. "I would not buy shares in rival companies on principle." Of course, his denial also leaves him clear to bid for Asda, if he wishes.

Winning way  
KEITH HUTCHINS, a dealer at

James Capel, may have a wistful tear in his eye as June draws near. A year ago, he and four colleagues at Capel found themselves £19,000 better off, thanks to their punt on the annual Stock Exchange Derby day draw. Hutchins, who also



won in 1982 while at Wood Mackenzie, is hoping for a hat-trick when the winner romps home next Wednesday. "We organise a syndicate every year," he says. Anyone else fancying a flutter should move fast. The sweepstakes closes today.

### Low profile

CRISPS and sandwiches may be the highlight of Satchi & Satchi's annual meeting in London today. While Maurice Satchi, the chairman, will perform his usual conciliatory role, in the wake of the controversial capital restructuring plan, the chances of his brother, Charles, appearing at his side do not look good. Charles, billed as the creative genius behind the advertising empire, seems to spend much of his energy keeping out of

the public eye. So, what are the chances of a break with tradition today? A company insider says: "Somewhere between a fat chance and not a lot."

### Job prospects

CANDIDATES are lining up for the top job at the Co-operative Wholesale Society, which will be up for grabs when Sir Dennis Landau, the chief executive, steps down in just over a year. David Skinner and David Lacey, Sir Dennis's deputies, are in the running, as is Graham Melmoth, the CWS secretary. Some punters also favour Harry Moore, chief executive of Co-operative Retail Services (CRS), the movement's biggest retailer. Moore could lead efforts to raise funds, including the flotation of part

of the Co-operative Bank, a CWS subsidiary, or the sale of CIS, the insurance arm of CWS.

### No grudges

GOLFERS enjoying a round at Gleneagles, Tayside, at the weekend were struck by the sight of a dapper gentleman quietly taking the air. He turned out to be none other than James Gulliver, chairman and chief executive of Argyll during the bid for Distillers, who seems to be making the most of his retirement. Gulliver's presence may also be taken as proof that he is not one to dwell on the past, for Gleneagles is, of course, owned by Guinness, who pipped him at the post during the battle for Distillers... or so it appeared.

JON ASHWORTH

## Westland prospects hover

### TEMPUS

WHATEVER the Westland boardroom's reservations, the market appears confident that there will be good news about the EH101 helicopter before the year is out. Another reason is hard to find for the buoyancy of the share price, underpinned though it is by the 21.3 per cent GKN holding.

A government decision to equip the Royal Navy with a fleet of 50, and an order for a further 35 from the Italians, would trigger a wave of contracts from the Canadians and others, for military and for civil use, but not even Alan Jones, Westland chief executive, expects to hear before December. If the news is positive it would be another year or two before there was any impact on Westland profits.

In the meantime the Gulf war has at best had a neutral effect on group trading. The defence ministry has not felt the need to replace lost equipment that had already become surplus following the thaw in East-West relations. Civil re-ordering suffered however as non-military flights were curtailed, and forced the February redundancies at Westland Technologies that translate into a £3.4 million exceptional write-off at the interim stage.

The war has also squeezed the budgets of some of Westland's best customers, and the group could usefully do with some early sign from the Saudis as to their Black Hawk requirements. The Koreans have their 12 Lynxes. The aerospace division's \$200 million Saab 2000 engine pod contract is welcome.

Half-year profits are down from £11.5 million to £9.4 million, but a lower tax charge has elevated earnings from

5.4p to 6.1p a share. Best guesses suggest they will double that over the full year, establishing a p/e ratio of around 10. High enough.

### Asda

ASDA remains the enigma in the food sector. Is it a sleeping giant or a doomed dinosaur? Does it have the potential to challenge Britain's big three food retailers?

During three months, Asda's shares have underperformed the market by 23 per cent, having all but ignored whispers of stake-building.

John Hardman, the chairman and chief executive, has sent out Section 212 letters to flush out buyers and volume has been healthy of late. But takeover hopes are offset by trading worries.

Asda has been unable to realise its remaining investment in MFI or to achieve respectable returns on Allied Maples because of depressed consumer spending.

Asda is ill-placed to fight rival supermarkets for food volumes and tighter margins would seriously affect its ability to turn around the underperforming stores acquired from Gateway.

Asda lacks the financial strength to match competitors' capital expenditure, with gearing in excess of 70 per cent. A rights issue is needed but institutions, divided about its strategy, may not be supportive.

Crazier things have happened but £3 billion, if debt is included, would be a lot for any bidder to pay to become

Britain's fourth-largest food retailer.

On fundamentals, the shares, worth 109p and trading on a prospective p/e of 10.7, still look overpriced.

### Metro Radio

PROFIT waves at Metro Radio Group are strong on the trading frequency, but they lose their strength at the net level after a six-month period, ending March 31, during which Metro paid, rather than received, interest and had a larger share capital to service.

The absorption of Yorkshire Radio Network has gone well and Metro's trading profit in the interim period turned out at £782,000 (£725,000). But there has been interest paid of £73,000, against £212,000 received, on net debt of £2.5 million and pre-tax profits turned out at £709,000 (£937,000).

The higher equity case saw fully-diluted net earnings per share down from 5.84p to 3.01p, from which an unchanged 1.5p-a-share interim dividend is paid.

Metro's national advertising revenue was 17 per cent down against a market that was 40 per cent weaker, though Yorkshire surveys still suggest some local buoyancy.

Receipt of about £1 million from non-core asset sales in the second half will ease the interest burden and debt could be all but cleared next year.

Pre-tax profits for this year could be £2 million (£2.19 million), but, until there is a strong run in net earnings, the current rating of 19.5 times earnings, based on yesterday's 164p, down 4p, is looking well ahead.

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## STOCK MARKET

## Hopes for new drug send Glaxo shares above £12

**GLAXO: SHARES BOOSTED BY STOCK SHORTAGE**

Share Price  
1984 1985

FTA All-share Index (Reduced)

May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May

1200  
1150  
1100  
1000  
950  
900  
850  
800  
750  
700  
650  
600

on whispers in the marketplace that its own broker, The group is working on a

**MICHAEL CLARK**

for an undisclosed sum. Meadow Meats is a subsidiary of Guinness Ireland.

the group is near to launching a drug that will combat some forms of mental disorder.

The shares were marked sharply higher in London after overnight support for the ADRs in New York where one arbitrageur was believed to be struggling to cover a short position. Wall Street's chart analysts claim that the shares are a buy after topping the \$4½ level.

Analysts on both sides of the Atlantic are becoming increasingly excited about the prospects for its new drug, Ondansetron, which can be used to treat some forms of mental illness.

They say that the prospects for the drug are promising and should encourage Glaxo to increase its share of the sale of Zetac, its best-selling, anti-cancer drug, start to fall.

Glaxo is helping to sponsor a pharmaceuticals conference on June 9, at which the new drug will be discussed. But Glaxo issued a warning that it is likely to be several years before tests are completed and the treatment available. Glaxo has a strong portfolio of drugs and has a number of others under development.

Recent speculation also suggests that Glaxo may be considering a joint venture with ICI's pharmaceuticals side. ICI is believed to be on the lookout for ventures as a way of feeding off the advances of Hanson. ICI firmed by a further 6p to £12.46 as speculators continued to build positions in the belief that Hanson will eventually launch a hostile bid.

Lord Hanson has been quoted as saying that he does not want to make a hostile bid — in Britain or America. The takeover panel said that it would take no action over the remarks. Hanson firmed 2p to 215p.

The rest of the pharmaceuticals sector was encouraged by Glaxo, although the best levels were not maintained. Rises were seen in *Fisons*, 3p to 475p, *Reckitt & Colman*, 7p to

day of indecisive, see-saw trading. The Hang Seng index shot up 68 points in early dealings to a high for the day of 3,643 but a belief in the market that plans for a new Hong Kong airport would be scrapped reversed gains.

The Hang Seng closed 19.26 up at 3,594.78 after the colony's governor said that no snap decision would be made on the airport, so allaying fears for now.

Brokers said that the sharp, early gains were started by President Bush's comment that he would extend China's "Most Favoured Nation" trade status for another year and by technical recovery from the Hang Seng's drop of 3.46 cent (128 points) on Monday.

Meanwhile, the broader-based Hong Kong index climbed 12.43 to 2,351.75. Turnover slid to HK\$1.37 billion (£102 million) from HK\$1.67 billion on Monday.

Ian Donnachie, the sales director at Asia Equity, said: "The market is likely to remain skittish in the foreseeable future."

Tokyo — Prices closed slightly easier. The Nikkei index was down 35.21 points, or 0.14 per cent, to 25,390.67, a three-month closing low. Volume rose to 240 million shares compared with Monday's 200 million.

Sydney — The market closed lower on the back of a volatile domestic currency. Brokers said the fall resulted from local selling in thin dealings combined with poor overseas buying. The all-ordinaries index closed at 1,518.2, down 17.0.

Frankfurt — Shares recovered after prices had fallen on profit-taking and because of an interruption in foreign demand. The Dax index ended near previous closing levels, at 1,682.14, a rise of just 0.69 points. The Dax had fallen to a day's low of 1,668.52.

Singapore was closed for a local holiday. (Reuters)

# Goodman acquires

## troubled meat firm

## Troubled Meat Firm

LARRY Goodman, the Irish beef baron who is at the centre of a judicial investigation ordered by the Dublin government, has taken over a troubled meat-processing company near the border with Northern Ireland.

Mr Goodman's Anglo-Irish Pig Processors group has bought Ballalyb Meats, of County Monaghan, which suspended operations last year after running into financial difficulties.

The Irish government last week established a tribunal of enquiry to be presided over by a High Court judge, to examine allegations against Mr Goodman's organisation in an *ITV World In Action* programme, and subsequent claims made in the *Dail*, the Irish parliament, by opposition MPs.

The cost of the takeover of Ballalyb Meats was not disclosed, but the price was believed to be nearer to £1 million than the £5 million initially invested in the ultra-modern processing plant.

When it closed, Ballalyb Meats was reported to have debts of more than £7 million.

## FROM JOANNA PITMAN IN TOKYO

Osaka Fumin Shinyo Kumiai, an ailing credit association, has accumulated bad debts worth an estimated ¥95 billion (£395 million), in part as a result of its loans to

Itoman, which in turn has run up debts estimated at more than ¥1,000 billion.

	1990 £000	1989 £000
Turnover	126,446	107,086
Profit before tax	5,864	7,322
Dividend per ordinary share	13.0p	13.0p

Road maintenance specialists, mechanical and hydraulic engineers, civil engineers, property developers, concrete and g.r.p. pipe manufacturers and roadstone suppliers.

## MAJOR INDICES

## RECENT ISSUES

SCU Trust (50p)	42	Shares
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**THE Co-operative Bank may soon drop support for com**

The bank already has a ban on helping South African in-

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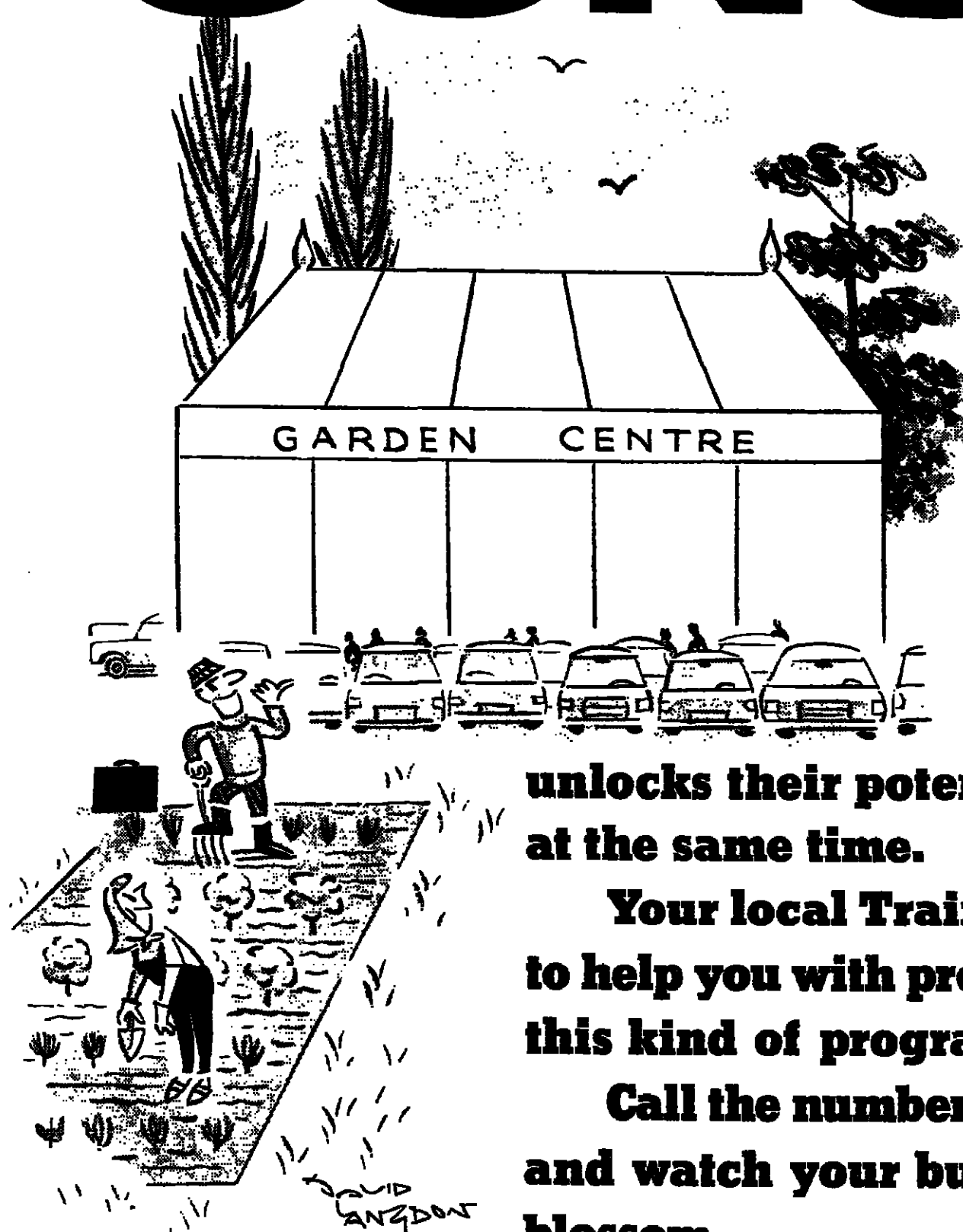
1890	1	10	17	12	72	79	May	1%	2%	5%	77	74	128
Pittsington	180	17	20	28	1	9%	Jun	11	18	30	52	87	130
(1773)	180	1%	10	17	6	22	Jul	21	31	49	66	100	137
	200	4%	5	10	26	36	Aug	30	41	57	77	107	142
Providence	230	6	18	22	1%	8%							
(1724)	230	1	8%	12	17	70							







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# City seeks to close door on Avon and take a solo road



Despite financial difficulties, many of which Avon council blames on the government, Bristol is intent on confirming itself as the capital

of the West Country. John Young reports on the business ventures designed to restore pride and prosperity to the area

There is at least one faded sign on a street corner welcoming visitors to the city and county of Bristol. Many people who care about local government would be happy to see Bristol's city status restored.

Avon county council is one of the least-loved results of the Conservative government's 1974 reforms. In its recent white paper, the government suggested that Avon, which includes Bristol, Bath and Weston-super-Mare, would be one of the first authorities to be abolished.

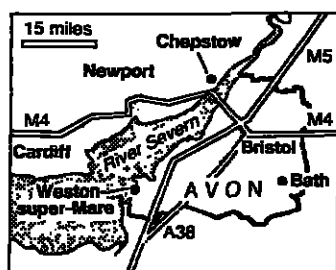
With 372,000 inhabitants and a considerable history and character, Bristol resents being governed as Britain's largest non-metropolitan district. The government has asked the city council to prepare a statement on why Bristol should be a unitary authority, to be submitted next month.

The council is beset by financial difficulties. Last year its spending was capped, and the government has threatened to do the same this year unless a further £6 million is cut from its planned budget. The council has already made cuts of about £8 million, and has complained to the government that it is being victimised.

Labour believes the government sees them as running a profligate, "loony left" council — but the party increased its majority to 21 in this month's elections. The city has the highest community charge outside London. The government grant is also among the lowest to any large city; possibly because it is seen as a prosperous, well-endowed city with few problems.

Bristol presents a thriving appearance with a bustling city centre crowded with office blocks. Elsewhere, there is a wealth of splendid architecture, including the cathedral, the huge university, and the terraces, squares and crescents of Georgian Clifton. There is a sense of pride and history; Bristol was the focus of sea trade with the Americas and the Indies.

The port has long since moved



to Avonmouth, but the old docks are being restored and redeveloped with style and energy. One of the reasons for the council's financial problems is its huge investment in the Royal Portbury Dock, on which it still has to repay £92 million in loans.

Until recently the council had serviced the debt by selling assets, but the government closed that loophole last month. The council has decided to privatise Avonmouth, the largest municipally owned port in the country, and is negotiating with First Corporate Ltd to take on a 150-year lease. This should end the unhappy saga of Royal Portbury, which lay

empty and unused for years.

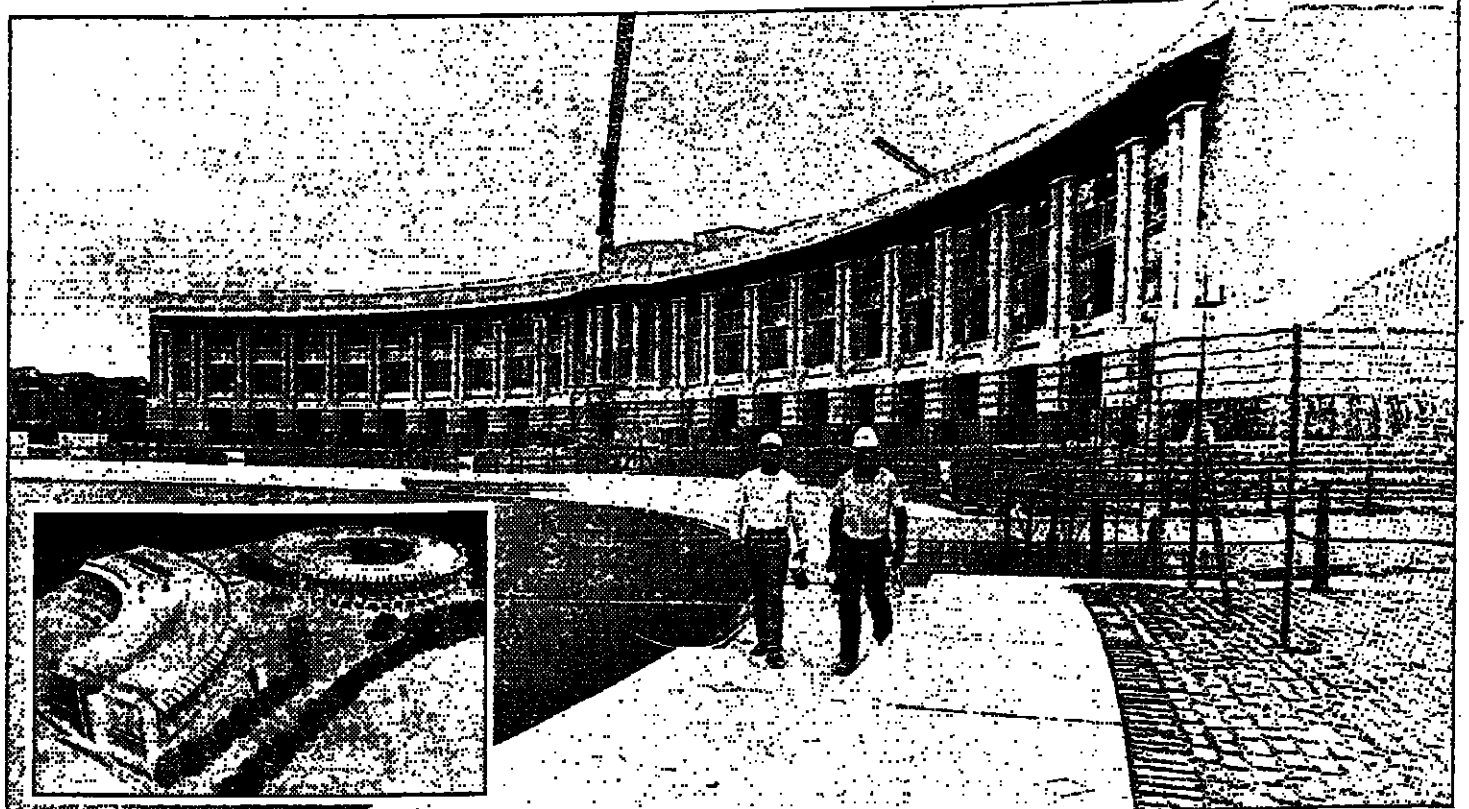
Bristol's prosperous appearance can be deceptive. Newcomers complain that it lacks the attributes of bigger centres, such as Birmingham and Manchester. Despite its cosmopolitan history, Bristol remains parochial and xenophobic, they say.

There is also much social deprivation, which is said to have contributed to the St Paul's riot ten years ago. Racism and police harassment were blamed, but the riot showed that Bristol was vulnerable to the ills that afflicted other inner cities. The situation in St Paul's has improved, but unemployment in the Ashley ward, of which it is part, is still about 17 per cent, compared with less than 5 per cent in the city.

South Bristol is a depressing wilderness of council estates, with no evident attempt at serious planning. Parts of the eastern area of the city have been derelict for years, which led to the establishment of the Bristol Development Corporation in 1989.

The council is optimistic about the future. It plans improvements to the city centre, including the expansion and upgrading of the Broadmead shopping complex.

The council has also published proposals for landscaping and other improvements to the historic Castle Park. The road across College Green is to be closed, as is the road that disastrously bisects Queen Square, one of the finest Georgian squares in Britain. With such improvements, the city is eager to sell itself as "the capital of the West Country".



Cashing in: one of the Lloyds Bank buildings on Canons Marsh in the docks area and (inset) an architect's model of the complex

## Banking on bustle tomorrow

One of the most striking symbols of the new Bristol is to be found just a few minutes' walk from the cathedral. On an 11-acre area of Canons Marsh, formerly occupied by three bonded tobacco warehouses, two handsome buildings — one already occupied, the other nearing completion — house the new headquarters of Lloyds Bank.

The bank's decision to choose Bristol, in preference to 79 competing locations, represented a coup for those who claim that the city is set to rival the City of London as an international financial centre.

Lloyds say its choice was determined by a well-developed urban infrastructure, good communications with London, and a high quality of life for staff choosing to relocate.

Canons Marsh is virtually the last undeveloped site in what used to be the city docks. That it should have been neglected for so long, given its location in the heart of Bristol, is extraordinary, and can best be explained by the fact that it is jointly owned by the city council, British Rail and British Gas, which have so far been unable to agree on what to do with it.

Even now, there are those who say that the sale of the prime riverside segment to Lloyds will make it more difficult to market the largely derelict land that adjoins it. The

Lloyds Bank has taken the lead in relocating. Now plans are afoot to turn a wasteland into a business, recreation, arts and leisure centre

council will have none of that. It recently commissioned LDR International, a firm of planning consultants, to produce a master scheme that would transform the 80 acres of Canons Marsh and Wapping Wharf into "the premier area for recreation, arts and leisure for the people of Bristol and its region".

On paper, it looks splendid, with a proposed network of streets, avenues, squares and parks surrounding the floating harbour. There would be 2.5 million sq ft of new buildings, about a quarter of which would be housing, another quarter small offices and workshops, and the rest devoted to leisure and entertainment.

The latter would include an arts arena, something which Bristol as a self-styled regional capital conspicuously lacks, exhibition galleries, nightclubs, casinos and cinemas. The SS Great Britain, already a tourist attraction, would become the focal point of a new maritime heritage centre.

There would be a new hotel, conference facilities, a sports hall, a swimming pool and an open-air

market. The overall design would open up new vistas; for example, the cathedral or the great soaring spire of St Mary Redcliffe.

All that is needed is the money. The recession has hit Bristol as everywhere else. St John Hartnell, a leading local land agent, observed earlier this month that only 450,000 sq ft of office space was under construction, compared with about one million sq ft a year ago. About 1.2 million sq ft was empty and awaiting tenants, the highest figure for the past six years.

But in the longer term, he sees further growth in demand. There are few prime sites still available and several large developers are showing interest in all of them, he says.

Bristol's biggest disadvantage, and the largest obstacle to expansion, is its lack of public transport.

No other big city in Britain is so dependent on the car or suffers more from traffic and exhaust pollution. The proposed ATA (advanced transport for Avon) light railway has been endlessly delayed, and the bill needed for its

authorisation has yet to complete its passage through Parliament.

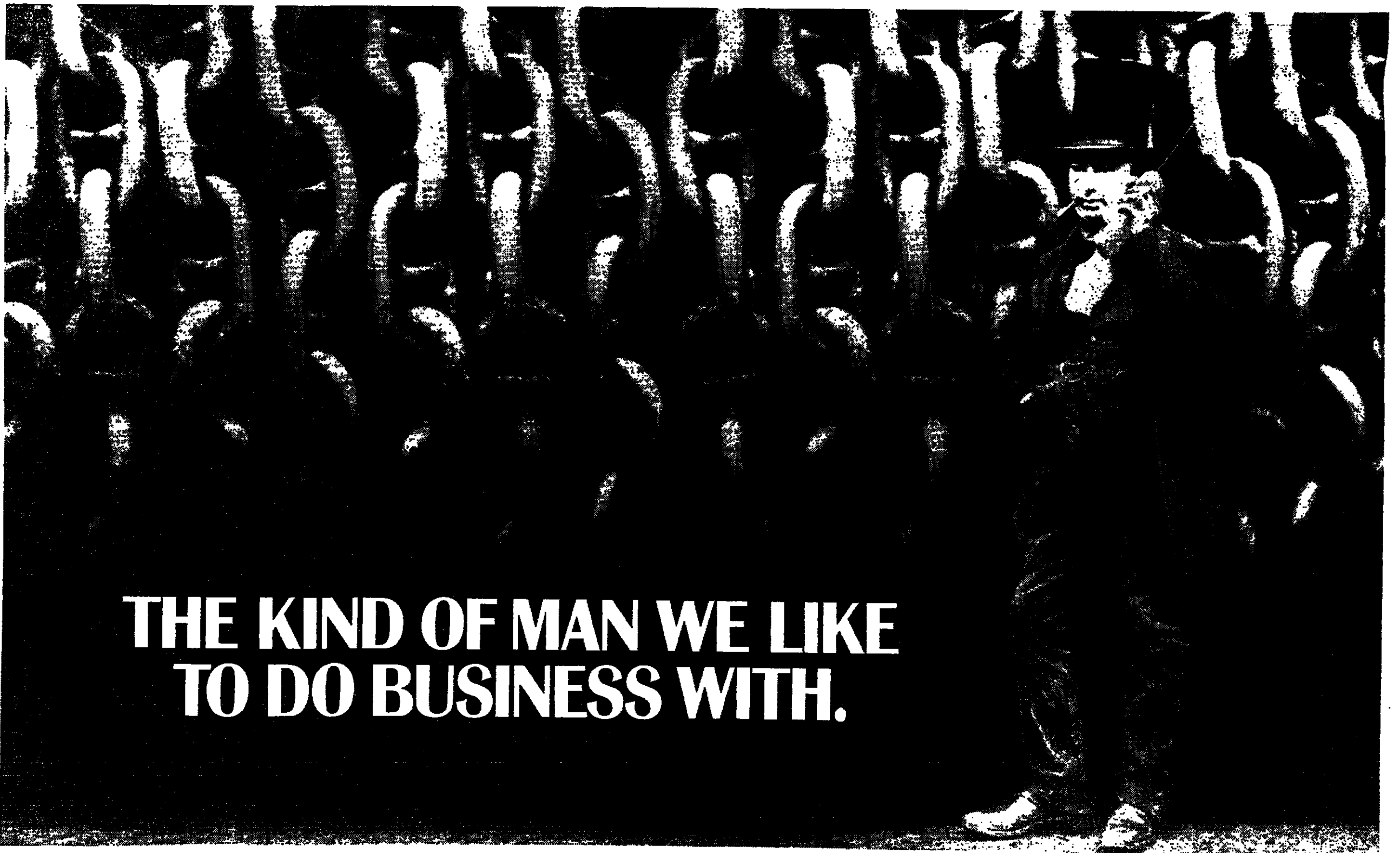
Although the go-ahead has been given for the first 12-mile section from Portishead to Wapping Wharf, the project will not be viable without the all-important section through the city centre and Broadmead to Temple Meads.

Despite the proof that tramways or light railway systems operate successfully on the Continent, and are being introduced elsewhere in Britain, there are still objectors who claim that they are a safety risk, and the House of Lords has indicated, in its best schoolmasterly fashion, that the squabbling must stop before the bill receives assent.

If and when the issue is resolved, a third stage is envisaged from Temple Meads to Avonmouth, assuming that the necessary finance will be available.

The cost of the first and second stages is put at £228 million, which compares with £297 million for the second Severn crossing, and £235 million for the widening of the M4 and M5, which are both confirmed.

Yet another project is for possible electrification of the main railway line between Bristol and London, but that is still under discussion, indicating that, whatever politicians may say, roads still have priority when it comes to public expenditure.



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# Hard sell to lure £1 billion

Despite council doubts, the development corporation is pushing ahead with leisure projects

Bristol can fulfil its potential by selling itself as aggressively as cities such as Cardiff, Glasgow and Birmingham, says Miles Collinge, the chief executive of the Bristol Development Corporation. "I think Bristol has more potential than any other city," he says.

The decision to establish an urban development corporation in 1989 shocked many people who questioned whether the apparently favoured city needed a government-sponsored agency to help solve its economic and environmental problems. The city council viewed the move as a hostile one by a government with which it was, and still is, at odds.

A look at the area around Temple Meads, the traditional heartland of the city, clearly shows that action is needed. Visitors arriving by rail are confronted by a landscape which, in the corporation's words, is "shamefully neglected".

The designated urban development area covers about 900 acres, stretching along the River Avon and the feeder canal from the city centre to its eastern boundary. It is criss-crossed by roads, railway lines and waterways, but still suffers from inadequate internal communications. The area includes 27 acres of unused land and buildings.

The central and southern part, St Philip's Marsh, is a decaying industrial zone with several engineering and chemical works. The corporation believes industry and commerce could flourish on the site, but it says there are several "noxious and untidy uses that are inconsistent with the area's potential" and should be relocated. Part of the vacated space would become a science park.

At the eastern end are 100 acres formerly occupied by the St Anne's board mill, which was closed by its owners, Imperial Tobacco, in 1979, with the loss of about 3,000 jobs.

The corporation plans a new village with shops, pubs and leisure facilities, and a mixture of low and high-cost housing. Existing wooded areas would be re-



Troubleshooter: Miles Collinge at the station in the "shamefully neglected" Temple Meads area. "Bristol can't rest on its laurels"

tained and the historic Troopers Hill, which has suffered seriously from erosion, would be protected, possibly as an open-air industrial museum.

A proposed weir on the Avon, downstream from the Bathurst basin, is essential to the programme of environmental improvement. Like other rivers that drain into the Bristol channel, the Avon suffers from a large tidal variation, which leaves areas of mud and rubbish exposed.

By containing the tidal variation, the weir would create two miles of attractive riverside and allow the new reach to be connected to the floating harbour, providing opportunities for boating and other watersports.

The most contentious proposal is for a new north-south spine road through the centre of the area, which would link the M4/M32 with the A4. The council has objected strongly to the scheme, claiming the road is not needed

and it will force factories to close. Since the corporation published its strategic plan almost two years ago, the council has accused it of being "anti-industry" and of being more interested in new roads, offices, housing and leisure developments, which would en-

*'We must pick ourselves up the same way that the Midlands have done'*

hance the image of the area, than in the 600 or so companies that now provide industrial employment.

Mr Collinge says the corporation's row with the council has

been exaggerated. "It is now history," he says. "We are working closely with the council on several environmental projects, including the weir."

He says the spine road is important to the success of the project. The road will relieve the overloaded inner circuit road and reduce the amount of traffic using residential streets, so improving air quality and lessening the noise.

The road would cross an area of mainly industrial, derelict and railway land. It would be elevated for part of its length, which would inevitably cause noise and visual intrusion, but screening with trees and shrubs would help it blend into the surroundings.

A public enquiry recently ended into the compulsory purchase order for a 90-acre site adjoining Temple Meads. Mr Collinge expects the site to be confirmed by July at the latest, and says that several of the country's largest developers have expressed interest

in the idea. St John Hartnell, of Hartnell Taylor Cook, the agents for the compulsory purchase, says work is expected to progress quickly. Initially, the government offered only £15 million for the project, with extra funding expected to be generated by enhanced land values. The recession has put an end to that idea, but he believes that a large-scale joint venture with a developer will be announced soon.

Mr Collinge expects total investment to exceed £1,000 million during the next ten years. "This is a critical moment, and we must grasp the opportunity now because of the rundown in the defence industries, which means a lot of skilled labour will need to be redeployed."

"We must pick ourselves up in the same way that the Midlands have done," he says. "It is high time people were aware that Bristol cannot go on resting on its laurels."

## Helping hand to guide renewal

A community group aims to ensure that progress is nudged in the right direction

Industrialists and business executives, sceptical about Bristol's ability to forge ahead, have formed the Bristol Initiative. Members are drawn from industry, education, local government and the churches to identify projects important to Bristol's future and to promote the city's economic and social welfare.

The group visualises Bristol as a leader in technology-based manufacture; a legal and financial centre; the regional hub of communications, transport and distribution; an academic capital; and the centre of tourism embracing an area extending from Devon and Cornwall through to Wales. Given its environmental and geographical advantages, its history and a revitalisation of its commercial spirit, success should be assured.

The effect of the recession has been weaker than in the rest of the country, particularly the south-east. A bigger worry, however, is the so-called "peace dividend", the reduction in defence expenditure which observers fear could lead to large-scale redundancies at British Aerospace and Rolls-Royce plants in Filton. The Bristol polytechnic recently made a study of the likely impact of reduced military expenditure on the economy of the southwest.

The radical restructuring in the local economy over the past 20 years means that 88 per cent of businesses have fewer than 25 employees. Most of these businesses are unable to invest large sums in education and training, and it is feared that the sub-

sequent skills shortage could preclude further expansion.

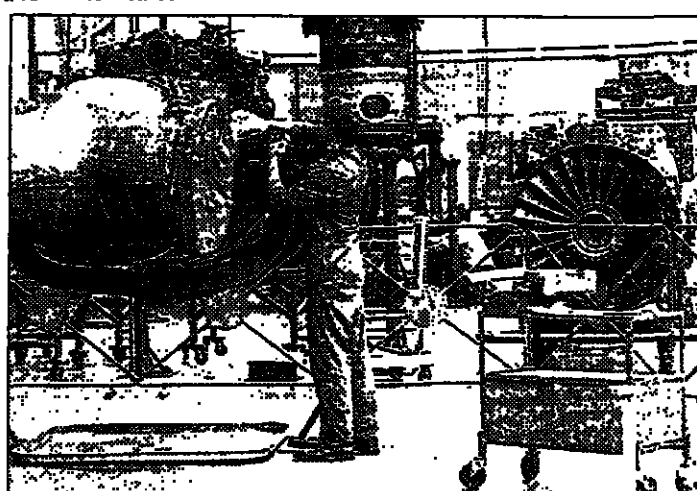
Despite the recession, the newly established Avon Training and Enterprise Council says there are shortages of engineers, clerical and secretarial staff, computer programmers and analysts, accountancy staff and catering workers.

The council is concerned about the low level of investment in training, which lags behind the rest of Britain. It says public investment so far has been directed at unemployment rather than improving skills.

"Government-led programmes are seen as barely satisfactory, even at the most basic level of attainment and capability," a council spokesman says. "Expenditure on training and enterprise services is far too basic to support the growth of Avon as a high value-added economy in the international competitive market."

The council estimates that up to 16,000 jobs will be created in the next four years, but the "natural supply" of workers to fill them will be only 4,300. Three-quarters of the companies surveyed appeared to be unaware of their training needs.

Despite this, the council highlights several strengths, including the presence of a number of "world-class" businesses, and small specialist manufacturing companies; a fine range of educational institutions, including two universities, two polytechnics, eight further education and four higher education colleges, and a location that attracts investors.



There are fears that defence cuts may affect Rolls-Royce

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YOUR STATION BACK HOME



## Industry bounces back

BRISTOL today has high employment in the white-collar and service sector, but the city has undergone big over the past 200 years in the industries it has embraced.

Its position as a port and mercantile centre meant it escaped much of the early impact of the industrial revolution. During the 19th century the decline of older industries, such as glass-making and metalworking, was hastened by growing competition.

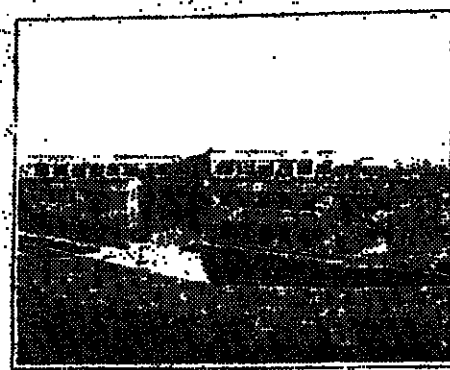
The city's manufacturing base this century has been founded on tobacco, confectionery, paper and packaging and, more recently, aviation, together with a chemicals complex at Avonmouth. Companies such as W.D. & H.O. Wills (later Imperial Tobacco), Cadbury Fry, Courtaulds, Du Pont, Rolls-Royce and British Aerospace provided employment.

Automation and rationalisation and, in some cases, declining demand led to a rapid shedding of labour in the Seventies and Eighties. Between 1971 and 1986, about 40,000 jobs were lost in the manufacturing industry. Disaster was averted by a remarkable growth in the service sector and white-collar employment.

By 1987, about 30,000 people were employed in manufacturing and almost 160,000 in the clerical and administrative sector, banking and finance, distribution, hotels and catering.

During the early Eighties, unemployment rose to about 13.5 per cent. The expansion of the service sector meant that by 1989, in Avon, it had fallen below 5 per cent.

## A STATEMENT ANY CHAIRMAN WOULD BE HAPPY TO ENDORSE



AZTEC WEST PARKGATE

Dear Shareholders  
Re: Proposed Relocation

Your Board's proposal — recommending relocation of this company to Parkgate in Aztec West, to provide a quality environment where both staff and "company" can to their full potential, realise opportunities and maximise achievements, unequivocally demonstrating this company's commitment to meeting future business challenges — is a statement I wholeheartedly endorse.

R. Williamson  
R. Williamson

PARKGATE presents a rare opportunity for an aspiring company to secure a superior regional office building on Britain's premier business park: Aztec West. Located just ten minutes from Bristol City Centre, and set in its own four acres of superbly landscaped grounds, Parkgate offers a business environment for companies and their staff that is second to none in the region.

- Approximately 68,000 sq.ft. of flexible air-conditioned office space.
- Distinctive high specification design with 2 attractive courtyards and paved roof terraces.
- Parking for over 360 cars.
- A real community with shops, wine bar, 4 star hotel with leisure complex, pub and village green; all set amongst mature landscaping, lakes and fountains.
- Excellent communication links - Aztec West is located adjoining the M4/M5 interchange and is within

a short travelling distance of Bristol's InterCity stations and International Airport.

- Over 70 companies, including major names in the banking, construction and communications industries have already located to Aztec West.

In short, Parkgate and Aztec West can make a positive contribution to your company's annual report — "a statement any chairman would be happy to endorse".

Parkgate is available either leasehold or freehold.

**PARKGATE**

For full details, please contact:

DEBENHAM TOWSON & CHENNOCKS  
071-408 1161

STRETT & PARKER  
071-629 7282

AZTEC WEST MARKETING OFFICE  
0454 201819

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## LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

Fax Numbers:  
071-481 9313  
071-782 7828Secretary to Programme  
Research Manager

## Six Month Fixed Term Contract

The Programme Research Department of TVS Television, based at Buckingham Gate, SW1, has a vacancy for a Secretary. This department analyses audience rating figures for television programmes and compiles information in future developments within programme making and scheduling.

The successful candidate should be organised, diligent and will have good secretarial skills (50 typing, a good working knowledge of Multimate Advantage 2 word processing, SuperCalc 5 and be computer literate). Experience of working for a small team would be an advantage as would previous market research experience.

If you feel that you are suitable for this position please write with a full cv to: Vicky Hemming, Personnel and Administration Manager, TVS Television Ltd., 60 Buckingham Gate, London SW1E 6AJ.

Closing date: 6 June 1991.

TVS welcomes applications from all people regardless of sex, race or disability.

TVS

**H**AVE you got the patience and senior-level experience needed to bring order and efficiency into an often chaotic environment, and to provide all-round support to our busy Sales Director?

If you have, talk to Laser Sales - one of the most successful, and the ambitious television sales companies in the business.

As a first-class secretary, with excellent typing/100wpm shorthand/WP skills, and the confidence to deal with senior management professionals - we can promise you a really varied role, involving regular contact with advertising agency personnel and clients.

We can also provide a good salary and a friendly, professional working environment.

To apply, please write with your cv to Vicky Hemming, Personnel and Administration Manager, Laser Sales Limited, South Bank Television Centre, London SE1 9NW.

LASER  
SALESAIGLON COLLEGE  
HEADMASTER'S  
SECRETARY

Aiglon College, the H.M.C. boarding school in the Swiss Alps for 280 boys and girls, wishes to appoint a Secretary to the Headmaster in July/August 1991 or at the latest in January 1992. Candidates may apply either for a temporary appointment with the possibility of extension beyond December 1991 or for a permanent (minimum 2 year) contract from January 1992.

This is a demanding position which carries considerable responsibility and calls for a well educated, level-headed and flexible person with sound administrative skills including word processing. Good written and spoken French are essential. Non-smokers preferred.

Applicants should be prepared to respond to the challenges of working in an international community, in which care for the individual and spiritual values are stressed.

Applicants are asked to write with C.V., recent photograph, copies of testimonials, and names, addresses and telephone numbers of 2 referees to:

The Headmaster

Aiglon College

1885 Chaux-de-Fonds

Switzerland

Tel: 010 41 25 35 27 21

OFFICE SUPERVISOR  
FRANKFURT BASED

Office Supervisor wanted to run a small but extremely busy Frankfurt subsidiary office of an established UK company.

The successful applicant will speak and write impeccable English and German. Typing skills, computer literacy and office management abilities should be excellent. A sales background would be an advantage.

This position will suit a confident and aggressive individual that enjoys working with an exciting product in a fast moving environment. Do not apply unless you have first class references and are ambitious and career minded.

Remuneration is by negotiation and subsidised accommodation is available.

In the first instance, please send detailed C.V. to:

Mrs. Heather Balle

Imagis Transfers Limited,

Bromfield, Bromley, Essex.

CV7 7HW

Telephone: (0376) 203534 Fax: (0376) 28902

Telex: 887679 IMAGIS G

LONDON PARIS FRANKFURT

PERSONAL  
ASSISTANT

Amiable, gregarious Art Director of an extremely successful children's book publisher needs an unflappable, mature and incredibly well-organized personal assistant with good secretarial and administrative skills to organize her hectic diary, catalogue artwork, field telephone calls, keep the office in order and just be there! The ideal candidate will be content with this kind of supportive role, willing to "pitch in" and able to deal with people at all levels.

Please reply in writing with c.v. (giving details of current salary) to Helen Main Ellen at:

WALKER BOOKS LIMITED  
87 Vauxhall Walk, London SE11 5HJ

## Australian Tourist Commission

The Australian Tourist Commission is an innovative and forward-looking organisation responsible for the marketing of Australia internationally as a tourist destination. As a statutory authority of the Australian Government, it aims to provide dynamic leadership to the Australian industry in identifying and developing market opportunities and co-ordination of the Australian tourism market effort.

Based at our office in SW15 we require:

SECRETARY/PERSONAL ASSISTANT...£214,000  
(Review Pending)

Our Regional Director and Area Manager require a well organized, self-motivated person to provide secretarial and administrative support. Working as part of a small highly motivated team, the duties are varied, requiring flexibility, immediate secretarial skills and the ability to communicate effectively.

In addition to the day to day secretarial and administrative functions, the successful candidate will complete reports and meeting minutes, co-ordinate the diaries and travel itineraries for two busy senior Managers. The position will also involve promotional duties as part of the Commission's marketing effort.

Applicants should possess accurate secretarial skills 90/60, a thorough working knowledge of word-processing (Word Perfect 5) and be familiar with IBM computers.

Previous experience working at Senior level is essential, preferably in a PR/marketing environment. Knowledge of a European language would be a distinct advantage.

Applications should be marked confidential and forwarded by June 5 to:

The Office Manager, Australian Tourist Commission, Gemini House, 10-18 Putney Hill, London SW15 6AA.

(The A.T.C. is an equal opportunity employer)

(No Agencies)

North Acton  
£17,000

Chief Executive of successful international Group needs a bright, self-motivated, enthusiastic PA. His priorities are to increase the Group's market share and to create a solid base from which to expand into the next century. He wants his PA to become fully involved in the business, have first-class secretarial skills and the confidence and ability to keep things running smoothly when he travels abroad. Age 28-35, shorthand and WP essential. Benefits include free parking, BUPA, pension and bonus. Please telephone Sarah Stewart on 071 434 4512.

## Crone Corkill

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

PA  
Harlow

Energetic Chairman, who is the driving force behind a successful Pharmaceutical Company, seeks an exceptional PA. You will be totally indispensable assisting with projects, contributing at meetings and making decisions in his absence. First-class secretarial skills (100/60/WP), a sound CV and a polished appearance essential. Graduate/A levels preferred. European language useful. Age: 30-40. Highly competitive salary. Please call Fiona Marriott on 071-434 4512.

## Crone Corkill

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## £20,000

The Managing Director of a Consumer Goods Company marketing its products throughout Europe needs a confident outgoing PA to assist him and to take over the personnel function within the firm.

A good organiser with an eye for detail will find this a demanding but interesting role. Skills 100/70. Age 28 - 38.

DIRECTORS' SECRETARIES  
0800 833104

## SECRETARY

## St James's - London SW1

We are an old established firm of Surveyors and Estate Agents with offices near Green Park tube station.

We are looking for an Audio Secretary for our Valuation Department.

The position would suit a Secretary with good organisational skills and about 2 years' experience (preferably gained in the property business) who would like to work with a group of young and friendly people in a pleasant part of the West End.

We offer competitive salary and conditions.

Please write, quoting ref. JFL/UK, to:

MELLERSH & HARDING  
43 St James's Place  
St James's Street  
LONDON SW1A 1PA

## TO £16,000

## + EXCELLENT CITY BENEFITS

A bright future ahead within this prestigious Multinational City Co. A capable PA/Sec is required to work at senior level. (Experience within insurance industry highly preferred). A challenging position with room for development and growth and a great opportunity to combine your professional secretarial skills (100/70) with your desire to excel.

Call Caroline Wharton on 071 329 7866 A.W.D. (Rec Cam)

## EXPERIENCED SECRETARIES

## circa £15,000 pa

For Central London area. Must have good shorthand/typing/WP speeds. A level education and a consistent work record. These interesting positions provide scope, variety and require good organisational skills.

Telephone Sarah Gery on 071-438 6881 or write, with cv, to her at Messrs's Executive Selection, Premier House, 10 Greycoat Place, London SW1P 1SB.

## LEARN NEW SKILLS

## and REFRESH OLD ONES

St. James's College in Kensington offers short courses in Word Processing, Keyboarding, Shorthand and more.

Telephone Training Consultant: 071 373 3852 /2190/5389

## INTERIOR

## DESIGN

Interior Design Co. required secretary 20+ for lively office, good organisational skills essential. 80/50. Applicants to send CV to J. Page, Colfax & Fowler, 39 Brook Street, London W1Y 3JE. No Agencies please.

UNDER 25?  
£16,500 + Benefits

Graphics/DTP experience and shorthand are "musts" for this pro-active team player, at a major British firm in W1. Assertive, outgoing and flexible, with strong organisational skills? Then call.

Lyn Wilkie on 071-439 7001

Call 377-2666 City or 439-7001 West End

## SECRETARIES PLUS

The Secretarial Consultants

## Judy Farquharson Ltd.

47 New Bond Street, London W1Y 9HA  
Tel: 071-493 8894 Fax: 071-493 7181

Secretary for Director of Personnel 17K + benefits

Charming director of prestigious City company is looking for a top secretary with 100 and 60 typing, and 24/30. Must be well-organised for this busy, happy office.

Admin Assistant/Financial Services 14K + benefits

Enthusiastic person with typing (50wpm) to join dynamic, young City team. Varied and responsible role for self-motivated person. Must be able to prioritise and liaise with bankers and sales staff. Age 22-30.

JFL RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## ADMINISTRATION ASSISTANT

Administration Assistant (30-45) required to work with the Administration Director of a Lloyd's Broker in EC3. Ability to administer efficiently and decisively on own initiative as important as good secretarial skills. Excellent remuneration package for the right applicant.

Apply in own handwriting with full CV to Box No 3948

## PROPERTY

Audio Secretary for busy West End Office close to Oxford Circus tube. Fast accurate typing (70 wpm) and shorthand essential.

CV please to Mrs. Lewis, 5th Floor 7/18 Chancery Street, London W1M 8AD. No Agencies.

## COSMETICS

## £16,000

World famous, prestigious cosmetics house need a confident secretary to assist the Managing Director. 80/60 skills, WP, 24/30 and excellent typing. Secretarial experience ideal. Please call Caroline King 071-499 8070.

## MEDICAL SECRETARY/RECEPTIONIST

Renowned Private Practice London W1. Young person with good shorthand and WP. Pleasant personality with patients and colleagues. Hours 10am - 6pm Mon-Fri, good salary.

071 486 7876.

## LIVELY SECRETARY!

Smart Ad Agency in Soho, requires lively, energetic secretary to look after four demanding but fun people.

Call Sophie Robinson 071-494 4428

Strictly No Agencies

Maine - Tucker  
Recruitment Consultants

## TV ... FASHION ... FUN

## £12,500 + 5 Weeks Hols + Medical Insurance + Restaurant (24hrs!) + Pension

Are you eager and young (19-25) and waiting in the wings for an opportunity to get into main-stream television? ...Keeping up to date with all the latest trends in everything from fashion to food, you will be involved with production, research, celebrities and more!

Using your 70+ shorthand and good typing, you will be working on your own initiative and ready for action at the press of a button!

18-21 Jermyn Street London SW1Y 6HP Telephone: 071-734 7341

## CITY GENT c. £18,000

As PA to the MD of this small underwriting company you will be an integral member of a closely knit team. In his early 40's, he is charismatic, independent and informal in style. Someone technically sound and accurate, who can use their people skills and initiative to problem solve would fit the bill.

He is an "early bird", so easy access to central London is necessary and computer literacy is highly desirable. A minimum of 2 years added secretarial experience, together with an organised and at times, selective approach are qualities needed to tackle the varied work load and to fit in to this friendly team environment.

Skills: 80/45. Age: 20-30  
Tel: 071-287 7788

## ANGELA MORTIMER

Secretarial Recruitment Consultancy

## PROMOTIONAL/MARKETING AGENCY

## JUNIOR SECRETARY

Limbo is the below the line agency of Bartle Bogle Hegarty. We are looking for a well presented, outgoing secretary who has six months secretarial experience. If you are 18-21, have 50 wpm typing and are willing to work very hard, write with a CV to:

Hattie Kirkbridge, Limbo Limited,  
40/42 Lexington Street, London W1R 3LH

## SECRETARIAL SELECTION

## FASHION £16,000

Large well-known Retail Group needs a fashion conscious secretary to assist a Director. Varied style and contact with manufacturers, designers and the public provides the involvement. Skills 90/60. Age 28-35.

071 629 9323

## HSR LEVAN

## RECEPTION £13,000 (+)

Top Gov. Gdn. advertising agency requires experienced reception (Mornings). Must be well-dressed, spoken with confidence and have tons of enthusiasm.

SENIOR £16,000 (+)

PA/Office Mgr required for lovely M.D. of Knightsbridge Co. Must be 24/41 with excellent typing & intelligence. Real PA role so flexibility essential.

Call Jo or Caroline 071 328 5523 Rec Conts.

## MEDICAL SECRETARY

Experienced non-smoking Medical Secretary with an outgoing personality is required for a busy Hospital and Gymnasium in Harley St. Own bright office. WP experience preferred but training can be given. Salary neg.

Please reply by sending CV to 2m Howard-Smith, 97 Harley St, London W1N 1DE.

NO AGENCIES

## PA TO DIRECTOR

Director of small Trading Company in central London requires responsible Personal Assistant with initiative and good secretarial skills.

Age irrelevant. Salary negotiable.

Please reply with C.V. to Box No 3948

## SECOND JOBBER

## c. £17K

Bright, enthusiastic, outgoing but calm - these are the qualities you will need to assist this busy team in a major investment house. In addition you will have fast, accurate typing skills and an excellent organisational ability. To hear more call us now on 071-225 1888

PA/SECRETARY, W1  
£16,000

Chartered Quantity Surveyors require experienced secretary to arrange smooth running of office and provide PA/secretarial support to Partners and Surveyors

Excellent typing speed, good organisational skills and ability to work under pressure are essential.

Please write with cv to:

Andrews & Boyd,  
49-51, Cavendish Street,  
London, W1V 1PF  
(No agencies)

## Secretary/PA to partner(s)

Major architectural practice in Kensington (4 mins K&S tube) requires experienced, mature secretary. Previous experience in architecture preferred. Good shorthand and audio speeds essential and previous Apple Mac experience would be an advantage.

Package includes attractive salary, pension scheme, free life insurance and a subsidised lunch facility.

Please send CV to:

Alan Rutherford  
GMW Partnership  
PO Box 1613  
239 Kensington High St.  
London W8 6SL

No agencies please

## SECRETARY REQUIRED

For the Wimbledon office of busy estate agent

Accurate typing, word processing experience, confident telephone manner, calm disposition and sense of humour are essential. Good salary for right applicant.

Please telephone Susan Fair 081-944 7172

## SENIOR SECRETARIES

If you are a high calibre PA/Secretary looking for a new direction, and have the experience that other secretaries lack, then you have nothing to lose by joining a top secretarial firm.

We want those with confidence agency interviews. At DPA we simply ask for a copy of your CV and we will match your skills against jobs on our register.

SO, come on all legal, permanent, flexible, part-time... into this preliminary may we see you on the 30th

Ring Debbie on 071-491 7774/071 249 1888 (Rec Cam)

## MAYFAIR PROPERTY CONSULTANTS

Requires Shorthand Sec/ PA (25-35) for 2 Directors. Responsibilities include role of office, general secretarial duties, full PA back-up to Partners. Must be very efficient, well-organised and have excellent command of English spelling.

Salary £13,500 pa rising to £15,000 after 3 months. Please send CV to Carole Stevens, 125 New Bond Street, London W1Y 9AR. Strictly no agencies

## Young, small firm of chartered surveyors are seeking top level PA Secretary, to work for two partners in busy, fun, office in the west end, excellent organisational and word processing skills are required (word perfect), must work on own initiative.

Attractive Salary, Bonus and Private Health Cover.

Please call Caroline on 071 491 7880.

Strictly No Agencies.

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also appears in

## THE TIMES

## on Thursday &amp; Monday

To place your advertisement ring

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سكزا من الأصل



# LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

**MARKETING SEC**  
£14,000.

A professional with a marketing background, 90wpm shorthand & 50wpm copywriting/PA fit the bill. You'll also need other qualities like tenacity & patience to keep your busy boss organised. An excellent perks package accompanies this rewarding career, which is wholly secretarial not a door to a marketing career. A stimulating job nevertheless. Call MEL TUDHOPE 071 935 7248.

PA to MD of MULTINATIONAL CO to £18,000. A unique opportunity for a seasonal PA. In addition to shorthand, WP & an 'A' level education, you'll need integrity & tact, confidence & flexibility here. That's because you'll be handling many challenging tasks, including liaising with overseas clients. Relocation from the West End to North London/Here after 6 months. Immediate start.

Call JANE WALKER, 071 434 0663.

**Office Angels**  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

**EXECUTIVE PA IN CORPORATE FINANCE**  
WITH ITALIAN £17,500 + EXEC BENEFITS

A PA with true commitment is needed as a key member of this Corporate Finance team. Your working hours are long but all your overtime is paid. Provide excellent support to the departmental head, handle calls from clients, arrange extensive travel itineraries, process expenses and use your knowledge of Wang WP and Lotus 123. Previous financial background essential. This is a career position with excellent rewards including bonus, non-con. pen., Life Ass., STP, paid overtime and free lunch.

Call Sue Chatterton on 071 636 9265.  
Sue Chatterton Associates (Rec. Cons.)

**Maine - Tucker**  
Recruitment Consultants

**TEMP BOOKING!**

Do you have solid WP experience using a combination of DW4 and Freelance Harvard Graphics? If so, we have the perfect booking starting on Monday 3 June in a great area of London. We need to meet you urgently so call Lisa Martin as soon as you can.

18-21 Jermyn Street London SW1Y 6EP Telephone: 071-734 7341

**DIRECTOR LEVEL**  
£15,000 + Mar Sub

Move into the Corporate Finance area of this leading Merchant Bank. As P.A. to 2 Directors you will coordinate meetings and organise their travel. Business schedules as they deal with Morgan and Acquisitions for V.I.P. clients. A flexible attitude towards overtime (paid) and see skills 90/90 required.

071-929 5850

100 New Bond Street, London W1 1LF Tel: 071-929 5850

**MULTI-LINGUAL OPPORTUNITIES**

**£17,000 PLUS BENEFITS**

**BI-LINGUAL (SPANISH/ENGLISH)**

**EXECUTIVE PA/SECRETARY**

Needed for a small successful firm of international financial advisors in the City. Running the office on a day to day basis, you will need to have excellent skills (but no s/h), be mature, organised, able to work on your own initiative and have a sense of humour. You will also need to have a basic knowledge of computerised bookkeeping. If you can match the above, we would like to see you. In the first instance please ring Belinda Cooper on 071 956 9900 or send your cv to her at Harwood Lawrence Ltd., 34 London Wall, London EC2M 5QX (fax 071 867 1191). No agencies please.

**Bilinguasec**  
PART OF THE BILINGUAGROUP

**1992 ON THE HORIZON - THESE ARE A SELECTION OF OUR OPPORTUNITIES IN EUROPE**

**BELGIUM** £20,000  
Creative de la Creme P.A./Sec. Utilise your French for dynamic, demanding charming boss. Int. Co. Flight/Accom. paid. Gem of a Job.

**CHANNEL ISLES** £20,000 TAX FREE  
Chance of a Lifetime! Spanish or Portuguese speaking P.A. with a working knowledge of French. Int. Co. Project your personality with V.I. Clients. Typing. Super Boss. Accom. provided. Relocation costs paid.

**GERMANY** £19,000  
New position due to expansion. Int. Drinks Co. Top P.A. Sec with German/Russian would be a plus but not nec. Swks hotel Relocation paid.

**FRANCE** £18,000  
P.A. Sec with French for Director Int. Food Co. expanding. New Position. Never a dull moment. Lots of Client Contact/Liaison. Swks. hols.

**SWEDEN** £17,000  
Int. American Co. (Retail) Need Swedish speaking P.A./Sec for General Manager. New Position. Swks. hols. Dynamic, Fun Boss.

**FRANCE** £16,000  
1992 - France - be there ahead of the time. Fluent French/Secretary, for Chartered Accountants. Swks. hols. Fun Friendly Office.

**SPAIN** £15,000  
Marketing Director needs Spanish speaking Executive Secretary. Relocation expenses paid. Leisure Co. Too good to miss! Min. shyping.

**PORTUGAL** £12,000  
M.D. needs Executive Secretary, for the Sales Division of Int. Co. Friendly, outgoing, informal! Love a Challenge? Utilise your Portuguese?

West End City:  
Tel: 071 493 6448 Tel: 071 929 5373  
Fax: 071 493 0168 Fax: 071 929 5458  
Rec. Cons.

**FRENCH SPEAKING SECRETARY IN CURRENT AFFAIRS**

If you have fluent French (preferably French mother tongue) good fast typing and Applause skills, we would like to hear from you.

We have a wonderful opportunity for a mature, ambitious, hardworking secretary to work alongside a high profile correspondent in a hectic current affairs environment.

You must be available for an immediate start.

071-499 6566

**The Grosvenor Bureau**

**PA to MD**

Very mature lady (35+) required to act as PA for the busy MD of an expanding construction company. Usual secretarial responsibilities, and will include arranging PR functions, some office management, recruiting and supervising staff.

Immediate start.

Skills 100/50 Wordperfect 5.1  
Car essential

Excellent remuneration package. Send CVs (private and confidential) to:

Mr Nigel Cox, Managing Director,  
Surreyway Close, Lymington, Culverthorpe Road, London SW11 5AX.

**MASTERLOCK RECRUITMENT**

**ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY**

required to assist the senior partners in a small practice of architects and surveyors. Would suit an experienced, efficient secretary with a good knowledge of bookkeeping and W.P. secretarial skills.

Salary £15,000 p.a.

Write with C.V. to:

Michael Gandy  
2 John Street  
London WC1N 2JH  
(no agencies)

**FRENCH/GERMAN - SWITZERLAND EXC SALARY-TAX FREE**

Superb opportunity to work ABROAD using your good French & German. Working in pleasant offices for an international team, you will provide full secret. support. Would suit 2nd jobber, spoken Italian an asset. Lotus 123, Age 22-28. English Mother tongue prof.

**FRENCH PA - CITY** £20,000 PKG  
HIGH LANGUAGE CONTENT & LOTS OF INVOLVEMENT for a Secretary with previous financial exp. at senior level, to assist Executive of City based Co. You will hold the fort, assist in all aspects & have a strong personality. 80/50 wpm, Eng. Mother tongue standard.

**FRENCH / GERMAN IN DESIGN** £15,000 + 5 WEEKS HOLS  
Rare opening for a bright Secretary with fluent French & German to assist friendly, young team of Design Co based in the West of London. HIGH LANGUAGE CONTENT, 65% translators, travel/trade show, design, fashion, type, exp. exp. required + shorthand. 80/50 wpm, Age 21-30.

**ITALIAN + SPANISH IN PUBLISHING** £16,000  
Two unique opportunities at the world's leading publisher of books: 1. Assistant to Italian Sales Manager. Fluent Italian & English essential. 2. Assistant to Regional Sales Manager with fluent Italian & Spanish; learn about Italian. Rights sales, book production, business of publishing. Positions require graduates, Eng. Mother tongue standard & an energetic approach.

**Boye Bilingual**  
071-287 6060

**PARIS LONDON SWITZERLAND**

Variety of bilingual secretarial positions.

For interview please call:  
SARA HANSEN, 071-493 6448  
PERSONAL CONSULTANTS

**BRUSSELS/PARIS**  
£18,000 + pkg

If you are a senior secretary with good administrative, organisational and secretarial skills (100 wpm S/H) and want to use your fluent French in an interesting role then consider making a move to a glamorous city to work for a dynamic VP. A friendly and mature manner is imperative as you will have to manage and delegate at all times.

If you are interested in this role or would like to discuss our other European opportunities please call Sarah Williams on 071-225 1888.

**PA TO PRESIDENT**  
£18,000

Working for this American investment management firm in W1, you will be supporting the President of the London office. Given his frequent absences abroad, you'll need to have the necessary confidence and ability to work independently using your own initiative.

A strong character, a sense of humour and a flexible approach to your work, together with the ability to cope with pressure and effectively prioritise your day are indispensable. Shorthand and excellent typing/WP skills essential.

Call Anne-Marie Murphy  
1 Harwood Place  
on 071 493 8668

**MANPOWER**

**PRIVATE SECRETARY**  
AGED 25 - 35  
CIRCA £16,000 P.A.

For busy Chairman of group of companies based in small London SW1 office. Should have good shorthand/typing, 'A' level education with commercial experience & director level on a constant work basis. The work is varied and interesting calling for good organisational skills and a cheerful personality.

Tel 071-730 5873

**HERTFORDSHIRE PA**  
£17,000

As Personal Assistant to the Managing Director of a leading Hertfordshire firm, you will be responsible for a wide range of duties including: answering the telephone, organising travel, liaising with clients, and general office management. You will also be responsible for the day to day running of the office.

Salary £15,000 p.a.

Write with C.V. to:

Michael Gandy  
2 John Street  
London WC1N 2JH  
(no agencies)

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# Great buildings given new life

Many historic houses and buildings are being converted to modern homes because they are considered either too big or too small. The best conversions, retaining much of the original design and decoration as possible, justify the conservation pressure that has increased in the past two decades since the loss of many fine examples of English country houses and historic buildings.

A spectacular example of conservation and conversion is Chatham Dockyard, in Kent, where ships were built and repaired for four centuries until it closed in 1984. The buildings on the 80-acre site comprising the earliest part of the dockyard are almost all Georgian or Victorian, including 47 scheduled ancient monuments and listed buildings, the greatest concentration in Britain. The Chatham Historic Dockyard Trust was set up to turn the site into a living museum.

Sir Stenart Pringle, the chairman of the trust, says that part of the aim was to have people living there again. The restoration and conversion work has been done by William Sindall plc, working to the guidelines of the environment department and English Heritage, to create 12 houses from the Officers' Terrace.

The houses range from 4,000 sq ft to 5,500 sq ft. Each has two reception rooms, master bedroom suite and five other bedrooms, three or five bathrooms and a wine

## The problem of finding uses for old buildings is being solved by imaginative developers, Christopher Warman reports

cellar. They all have a 150ft walled garden, and are for sale at about £400,000 through Savills and Coles & Co of Gillingham, Kent.

The houses are big enough to include an office. As well as the magnificent restored buildings, there will be new properties, including apartments from £69,000 for one bedroom and £86,000 for two bedrooms, and four-bedroom and five-bedroom houses from £169,000 to £245,000. Within the dockyard, crafts such as ropo-making and sail-making flourish. The aim is to attract more commercial tenants to make it a working as well as a living community. Within its great gateway, the atmosphere is peaceful, with high security.

The mansion at Northwick Park, Blockley, Gloucestershire, is a more conventional restoration and conversion of a country estate. The mansion and orangery provide seven apartments. The Grade I listed house dates back to 1686. The house is of international importance because of the work during the 1730s by Lord Burlington to the east facade and entrance hall, and to the central timber staircase.

The house was later owned by Captain Edward Spencer Churchill, a cousin of Sir Winston Churchill. But after the captain's death in the early Sixties, the estate had several owners until it was bought by Clarendon Properties in 1989. Restoration has been carried out by the Wallace and Hoblyn Partnership of architects. Planning permission has been granted for 35 dwellings in the parkland, to help pay for the £2 million restoration.

Partments in the house are priced at between £250,000 and £300,000, and the orangery, to be finished to the buyer's specification, from £330,000 to £400,000, through Jackson-Stops & Staff's Chipping Campden office. The owners will have exclusive use of the tennis courts, swimming-pool, croquet lawn and about 35 acres of gardens and parkland.

Denham Park, at Slough, Berkshire, is an imposing Victorian Gothic building, offered for sale as a working farm in *The Times* in 1978, and in the following five years extensively altered by a wealthy Kent magistrate to flaunt his status. The house, in four acres, has been converted to nine apartments by Honeygrove Properties, a local firm specialising in architectural restoration. All apartments have the original, working fireplaces, some rather grand, and two or three bedrooms. The apartments range from £250,000 to £400,000, through Hamptons. A full-time estate manager will oversee security and

maintenance. Further developments include the lower house, the coach house, providing two houses and four apartments, the courtyard, four houses in a replacement wing of the original mansion, and the gatehouse.

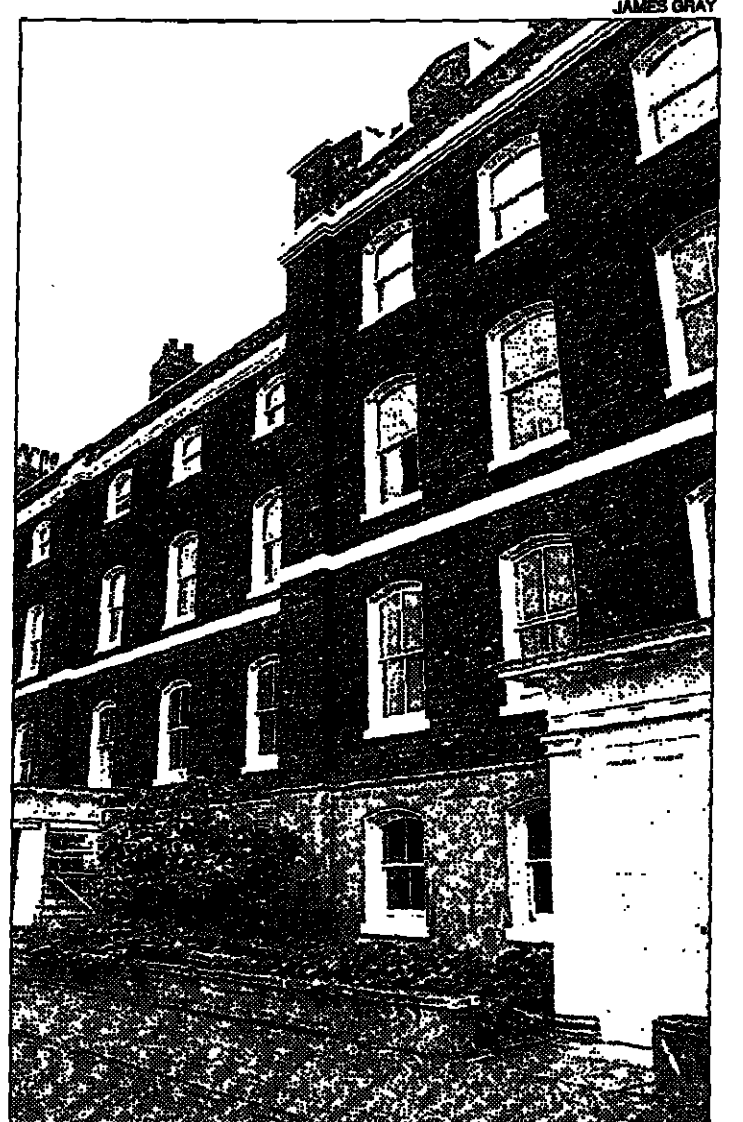
The 2,300 acres of Richmond Park are the backdrop for Richmond Park Heights, off Kingston Hill, Kingston, Surrey, a project by Crundace Special Developments based around Kingston Hill Place, an 1828 Regency-style mansion in nine acres of gardens. An association with the actress Lillie Langtry, who reputedly used the house as a retreat during her affair with Edward VII, gives it that extra spicy ingredient beloved of developers and estate agents.

A combination of restoration and new building, the development has 10 one-bedroom and two-bedroom apartments in the mansion, with two two-bedroom apartments on two floors, and two three-bedroom cottages in an added east wing. Within the grounds there will be 44 houses with two, three or four bedrooms, in new settings, including two octagonal houses, one beside the ornamental lake, and with a terrace over the water.

The mansion's orangery has a leisure area, with a swimming-pool. The properties are available from £120,000 for a one-bedroom apartment, from £222,000 for a two-bedroom apartment, and from £195,000 to £300,000 for the houses, through Aylesford and Knight Frank & Rulley.



Gloucestershire mansion: apartments from £250,000 to £300,000



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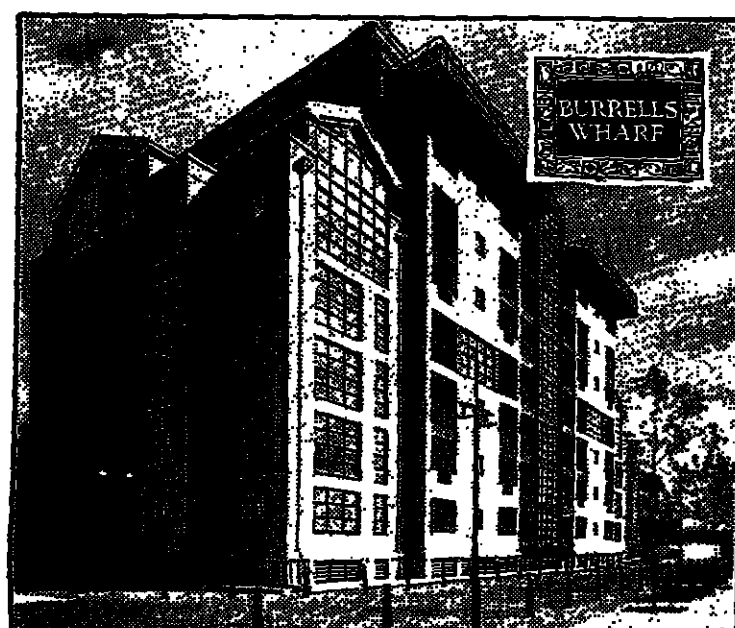
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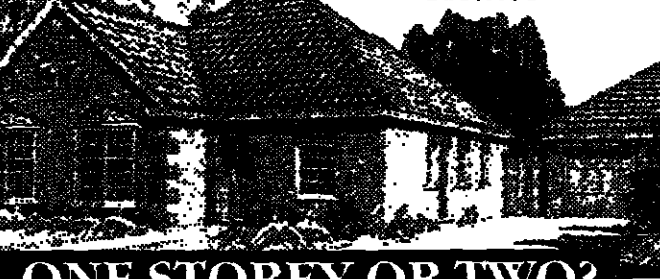
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Court of Appeal

# Group tax relief in joint venture

**J. Sainsbury plc v O'Connor**  
(Inspector of Taxes)  
Before Lord Justice Lloyd, Lord Justice Nourse and Lord Justice Ralph Gibson  
[Judgment May 22]

A joint-venture agreement between J. Sainsbury plc and a Belgian company to establish a chain of home-improvement stores did not deprive Sainsbury's of entitlement under the provisions of section 258 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970 to group relief for the trading losses subsequently incurred.

Although the agreement, together with an option agreement, gave the Belgian company certain future rights over shares in the new company, Sainsbury's had at the material times the necessary beneficial ownership of 75 per cent of them so as to qualify for the relief.

The Court of Appeal so held in dismissing an appeal by the Crown from the judgment of Mr Justice Millett (The Times June 8, 1990; [1990] STC 516) that had allowed an appeal by Sainsbury's from a determination upholding a tax inspector's refusal to claim for the relief for accounting periods from 1981 to 1985 of some £25 million. The Crown was refused leave to appeal to the House of Lords.

Section 258 of the 1970 Act provided for group relief for trading losses.

Sections 28 and 29 of the

Finance Act 1973 introduced anti-avoidance provisions qualifying entitlement to the relief. Section 28(2) enacted that a parent company, to qualify for the relief, had to be "beneficially entitled" to the shares of the subsidiary company; and... beneficially entitled... not less than 75 per cent... of any assets... of 25 per cent... of the subsidiary company.

Paragraph 5 of Schedule 12 to the 1973 Act supplemented the provisions of section 28. The provisions of section 28.

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## Court cannot speculate on effect of future change in sovereignty

**Regina v Governor of Brixton Prison, Ex parte Osman (No 2)**

Before Lord Justice Russell and Mr Justice Hodgson  
[Judgment May 22]

The requirements in section 6(4) of the Extradition Act 1989, designed to protect a person being extradited to another state, were satisfied when that state undertook to comply with those requirements and the court would not speculate on the effect a future change in sovereignty would have on that undertaking.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held in a reserved judgment dismissing an application by Lorrain Eame Osman for habeas corpus, Mr Osman having been committed to custody on June 1, 1987 by the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate to await his return to Hong Kong for trial on 42 charges of dishonesty.

Mr Anthony Scrivener, QC

and Mr Johnny Mok (of the Hong Kong Bar) for the applicant; Mr Clive Nicholas, QC and Mr Graham Grant (of the Hong Kong Bar) for the Governor of Hong Kong; Miss Clare Montgomery for the Governor of Brixton Prison.

LORD JUSTICE RUSSELL, giving the judgment of the court, said that the Governor of Hong Kong had given an undertaking to the British Government that it would meet all the requirements of section 6(4) of the Extradition Act 1989.

However, in 1984 the Chinese and British governments had signed a declaration that as from July 1, 1997 the People's Republic of China would resume sovereignty over Hong Kong.

The applicant had argued that the Governor of Hong Kong's undertaking could not therefore afford him the protection contemplated by section 6(4) as, if he were convicted on his return to Hong Kong, he would still be serving his sentence in 1997.

The applicant said that no one knew what would happen when China resumed sovereignty. The Governor of Hong Kong was in no position to give an undertaking binding on China. It was a matter of speculation whether the protections in section 6(4) would be upheld by China.

The respondents argued that section 6(4) was not concerned with other governments or countries in a foreign state, but was geared to the situation prevailing at the time of the request for extradition in the state making the request.

In the view of the court, such a construction was right. It was not necessary to look beyond the facts in the overall right to the right to individual attaching to particular shares.

The second question was also answered in Sainsbury's favour. Lord Justice Nourse gave a concurring judgment and Lord Justice Ralph Gibson agreed.

Solicitors: Eversheds for Osman & Mok; Hong Kong, Clifford Chance; Treasury Solicitor.

## Construction of special licence terms

**Edwards v Director of Public Prosecutions**  
Before Lord Justice Bingham and Mr Justice McCullough  
[Judgment May 23]

A special hours certificate, which permitted the serving of alcohol until 2am during an event involving music and dancing, applied even when the event was a private party at which the music and dancing concerned did not require a public entertainment licence.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held in allowing an appeal by way of case stated by Mr William David Edwards, licensee of the Staffordshire Volunteer public house, Wolverhampton, against his convictions by the Wolverhampton Magistrate of five offences of procuring the consumption of intoxicating liquor outside permitted hours, contrary to section 59 of the Licensing Act 1964 and section 44 of the Magistrates' Courts Act 1980.

Section 76 of the Licensing Act 1964 provides: "(1) This section applies to licensed premises... during the time that - (a) there is in force for the premises... a special hours certificate... (2) the permitted hours shall extend until two o'clock in the morning following, except that - (a) the permitted hours shall end at midnight on any day on which music and dancing is not provided after midnight; and (b) on any day that music and dancing is provided after midnight and two o'clock in the morning, the permitted hours shall end when the music and dancing ends."

Section 77 provides: "If on an application made to the licensing justices with respect to licensed premises the justices are satisfied - (a) that a music and dancing licence is in force for the premises... a special hours certificate... 2 Since section 76(2)(a) and (b) applied to registered members' clubs as well as to licensed premises, it was plain that one could not read the references to music and dancing as meaning public music and dancing."

One could read the references as qualified by "licensed" or "authorised" but if Parliament intended that qualification one would have expected it to say so and one should be slow to interpolate words into an Act of Parliament unless they were necessary to make sense of the Act. That interpolation was not necessary for that purpose.

3 The problems of controlling public entertainments were different from, and potentially greater than, those controlling private parties. It was therefore provided that public entertainments had to end by a certain specified hour, and the supply of alcoholic drinks to the public could not ever continue beyond that hour.

It did not seem that private parties involving music and dancing and the supply of alcoholic drinks were necessarily have been intended to end by the same hour, provided the serving of alcoholic drinks ended by the statutory deadline.

4 While public practice could not determine the construction, still less validate a wrong construction, of an Act of Parliament, his Lordship was reluctant to disturb what appeared to be a fairly general practice. That the practice had survived the passage of more than one Act on licensing since 1964 also encouraged the view that it had not been seen as a source of mischief.

5 This was a penal statute. Unless its effect was clear, as it was not, Mr Edwards should not be convicted. Any ambiguity should be resolved so as to preserve and not restrict the freedom of citizens.

6 Since many justices had construed the reference to special occasions in section 74(4) very narrowly, the effect of upholding the prosecutor's construction would be to limit the freedom of members of the public to give private parties continuing after midnight on licensed premises.

Those who gave such parties at their own houses were not so restricted. Since the licensed premises had to be judged suitable for music and dancing to obtain a public entertainment licence and a special hours certificate, there was no good reason why such a distinction should have been intended.

Mr Justice McCullough agreed.

Solicitors: Dunham Brindley & Linn, Wolverhampton; CFS, West Midlands.

part of the premises covered by a special hours certificate, even if the music and dancing had ended earlier or even if there had been music and dancing.

It would not, therefore, seem that the legislative scheme was to tie the extension of permitted hours closely to the actual provision of licensed music and dancing.

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Mr Justice McCullough agreed.

Solicitors: Dunham Brindley & Linn, Wolverhampton; CFS, West Midlands.

## Power to delay decree for financial reasons

**Garcia v Garcia**

Before Lord Justice Ralph Gibson and Lord Justice Butler-Sloss

[Judgment May 22]

The court had jurisdiction to consider an application under section 10(2) of the Matrimonial Causes Act 1973 to delay the issue of a decree absolute which was made on the ground that the petitioner had failed to keep up maintenance payments for the child of the family which had been provided for in a separation agreement made under Spanish law.

The Court of Appeal so held in dismissing an appeal by the respondent husband against the reinstatement by Judge Birk at Hastings County Court of the respondent wife's application under section 10 after its dismissal by the deputy registrar.

Section 10 of the 1973 Act provides: "(2) The following provisions of this section apply where - (a) the respondent to a petition for divorce in which the petitioner alleged...

five years' separation... has applied to the court for consideration of his financial position after divorce; and (b) the court has granted a decree on the petition...

"(3) The court hearing an application by the respondent under subsection (2) above shall consider all the circumstances, including the... conduct... financial resources and financial obligations, of each of the parties... and... the court shall not make the decree absolute unless it is satisfied - (a) that the petitioner should not be required to make any financial provision for the respondent, or (b) that the financial provision made by the petitioner for the respondent is reasonable and the husband and there was a satisfactory explanation for the wife's failure to enforce the agreement earlier, it was proper to use section 10(2) to delay the decree absolute until satisfactory financial provision had been made to the wife to correct the previous injustice."

There was probably an onus on the wife to show why other steps had not been taken; but it was not necessary in invoking section 10 to show that no other course was open: see *dicta* of Lord Justice Ormrod in *Cumbers v Cumbers* ([1974] 1 WLR 1331, 1335).

Section 10 was useful in the instant case as it brought into the wife's aid an injustice to the husband was applying to

dissolve the marriage after five years' separation without consent.

Also, section 10 might bring litigation between the parties to an end, which was always desirable. In such an unusual case section 10 might be an appropriate method for disposing of the whole matter.

The merits of the case had not yet been adjudicated upon, but there was jurisdiction for the court to consider the matter.

LORD JUSTICE RALPH GIBSON said that the ambit of section 10 was not limited in the way argued by the petitioner.

Normally the court would decline to exercise the jurisdiction if the problem could be dealt with on an ordinary application for financial provision. If, however, the case involved complicated problems which could be avoided by using section 10, its use was justified.

Solicitors: Holden & Co, Hastings; Durrant Ford, Hastings.

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### MARLBOROUGH

Superb 16th century



# Trump cards settling into Gallacher's hand



Ryder Cup candidate: Montgomery's bold play at Wentworth has put him in the reckoning

By MITCHELL PLATT  
GOLF CORRESPONDENT

THE renaissance of Severiano Ballesteros has given Bernard Gallacher, the Ryder Cup captain, an additional reason to believe that he can emulate Tony Jacklin by returning from the United States in September with the Cup still in Europe's grasp.

Gallacher, like Jacklin, is well aware of the influence that Ballesteros can exert in terms of galvanising his colleagues and intimidating the opposition. For those reasons alone there was no doubt that Gallacher had already pencilled Ballesteros into his team before the Spaniard confirmed that his game was back to something near its best, following his win in Japan by lifting the Volvo PGA championship at Wentworth on Monday.

This win means that he will almost certainly earn an automatic place in the team, heartening news for Gallacher, who has the task of selecting three of the 12. The leading nine in the Johnnie Walker points table, after the German Open on August 25, are assured of their places.

Gallacher would like nothing more than for those players he sees as the backbone of the team to qualify by right, although as things stand that may not be the case.

Nick Faldo, for instance, has won only £21,350, which is somewhere around £130,000 short of the sum that will be required. Faldo, of course, will be in the team whatever happens, but he will do well to

qualify automatically since he is scheduled to play in only four more points-counting tournaments.

Gallacher will almost certainly lean towards tried and tested players. So if Sandy Lyle, spurred by a final round of 65 in the Volvo PGA championship, maintains his own resurgence, then he would come under serious consideration. Lyle is ready to answer the call, as he pointed out after his flawless final round, with which he earned a share of eighth place, whereas two years ago he told Jacklin not to select him.

Gallacher has long been an admirer of Lyle's unflappable spirit, although he seems to be less than impressed with Ronan Rafferty's decision to take time off in August. If Rafferty, the winner of only £16,045 from six tournaments this season, misses automatic qualification, then he could find himself overlooked.

There can be no question, however, that Gallacher was impressed by the performance of Colin Montgomerie at Wentworth. Montgomerie has

had his critics and his attitude, at times, suggested that he was destined to be his own worst enemy. But last weekend's tournament could be the making of him.

His final round of 67, compiled while playing with Faldo, showed how well he can perform under pressure, and it was interesting afterwards to hear Montgomerie say that he lacked self-confidence. I always felt that he gave the impression of being nothing less than confident. Yet there is no harm in showing humility, as Montgomerie did on Monday.

Six players — Steve Richardson, Ballesteros, David Feherty, José María Olazábal, Ian Woosnam and Bernhard Langer — have each won more than £100,000 this season. If Richardson, with £187,034, can claim to be the only one assured so far of an automatic place, all six will assuredly be on the Concorde flight to the United States. I suspect Montgomerie will have a seat alongside them.

Some players tend to play down the importance of the

match, which this year will be played at Kiawah Island, South Carolina, from September 27 to 29.

Eamonn Darcy, for example, who finished third on Monday, said: "The Ryder Cup is not on my mind. That is genuine. I don't have that pressure this year. I'll leave it to the young guys. I did enough sweating the last time." But there is no doubt he wants to play again as much as Sam Torrance, Gordon Brand Jr, Mark James and José Rivero, of Spain.

Michael McLean, Miguel Martín, of Spain, Constantino Rocca, of Italy, Andrew Sherborne and Anders Forsbrand, of Sweden, are all hoping that they will make their debut.

Thirteen events remain before all will be decided, although for Ballesteros, who will start the Dunhill Masters at Woburn tomorrow as the joint favourite at 5-1 with Ian Woosnam, the future seems clear. "I can only think week to week," he said. "But it is good to know that I will be in the Ryder Cup team again."

## LEADERS IN THE US PGA RYDER CUP POINTS LIST

The points have been accumulated since January 7, 1990, and the list covers the 1991 PGA Championship.

1. W. L. Ryder, 625,139pts.
2. P. K. Ryder, 301,250.
3. H. W. Ryder, 480,000.
4. C. W. Ryder, 480,000.
5. C. W. Ryder, 480,000.
6. P. K. Ryder, 301,250.
7. H. W. Ryder, 480,000.
8. C. W. Ryder, 480,000.
9. T. S. Ryder, 301,250.
10. W. L. Ryder, 625,139.

The leaders in the Sony world rankings:

1. Woosnam (GB), 20,775 average.
2. J. M. Olazábal (Sp), 17,770.
3. N. Faldo (GB), 16,522.
4. G. Norman (Aus), 14,311.
5. P. K. Ryder (US), 11,800.
6. S. Richardson (GB), 11,000.
7. P. K. Ryder (US), 10,333.
8. H. W. Ryder (US), 10,333.
9. B. Langer (Ger), 9,844.
10. M. McLean (GB), 9,332.

Leaders in Volvo Order of Merit (for leading ten British, Irish and European players contending nine automatic Ryder Cup positions)

1. S. Richardson (Eng), 187,034, 20pts.
2. S. Richardson (Eng), 187,034, 20pts.
3. D. Feherty (Ire), 122,213, 17.
4. J. M. Olazábal (Sp), 119,717, 16.
5. J. M. Olazábal (Sp), 112,048, 13.
6. I. Woosnam (Wales), 111,070, 15.
7. S. Richardson (Eng), 102,075, 30.
8. V. Singh (Ind), 102,075, 30.
9. E. Forster (Arg), 92,184, 18.
10. C. Montgomerie (US), 89,519, 08.

## BOXING Marsh's return hits snag

THE planned comeback of Terry Marsh, the former world light-welterweight champion, will have to be staged outside Britain. The British Boxing Board of Control (BBBC) said yesterday it would refuse to recognise that Marsh could automatically "fight anywhere" under his newly acquired Nevada licence, and it looks certain to uphold the 1989 decision not to allow him back in a British ring.

John Morris, secretary of the BBBC, said: "Without any new medical evidence, I feel certain we will not re-issue a licence for Marsh to box again in this country. He had a special hearing nearly two years ago, where medical experts gave their opinions and witnesses gave evidence, and it was decided then not to grant him a new licence."

"Remember, it was Marsh who retired and returned his licence. It was not taken away from him. We do not automatically recognise a Nevada licence here. If we have stopped a boxer from fighting on medical grounds, it has been for his good and the good of the sport."

Marsh retired from boxing, amid disclosures of an epileptic condition, soon after the first defence of his International Boxing Federation light-welterweight title against Akio Kameda, of Japan, at the Albert Hall in July 1987. He won the world crown by stopping Joe Manley four months earlier.

Marsh was cleared of the attempted murder of Frank Warren, his former manager, eight months ago, and is reported to be planning a brief comeback with a September 30 deadline. He is ready to return to the ring at the end of next month and then aims to challenge Manning Golovoy, the world welterweight champion.

After that, he is aiming for the World Boxing Organisation light-welterweight title — an ambitious programme for a 33-year-old boxer out of action for nearly four years.

## Wharton to go for title

HENRY Wharton, of York, is to meet Rod Carr, of Australia, for the vacant Commonwealth super-middleweight championship in a contest his manager, Mickey Duff, describes as a "calculated risk".

Wharton, aged 23, has won all of his ten contests since turning professional and Duff is convinced that he is ready for the challenge, scheduled for Leeds on June 27. Duff said yesterday: "Some people think it is a little bit early but I have decided to take the fight now."

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## British stay true to themselves

From ANDREW LONGMORE  
TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

MONICA Seles was considering what life would be like as Madonna, Boris Becker sported the beginnings of a beard and moustache, Zina Garrison, the first women's seed to fall, appeared to be dreaming of a desert island and then disappeared, presumably to find it, immediately after her defeat. Everyone seemed to want to be somebody else at the French Open yesterday.

Only the British contingent stayed true to themselves. All three of them lost. So, for the first time since the start of the open era of tennis, no British player has reached the second round of the tournament.

Perhaps it was the first anniversary of Black Tuesday, the day when the top two seeds, Stefan Edberg and Boris Becker, lost in the first round, that induced the identity crisis. But if the thoughts of the top two seeds retreated 12 months, neither let it show. Both came safely through their first-round matches. Becker's straight-sets victory over Jordi Arrese being rather easier than anticipated, and Edberg's over Brad Wuyts, who entered the main draw as a lucky loser, marginally harder than he might have thought.

Becker admitted that he was tighter than usual, though more because he had not played competitively for five weeks than because of mem-

ories of last year. Thoughts of previous defeats by wily Spaniards Juan Aguilera and Sergi Bruguera (twice this year) cannot have calmed his nerves, either. In the event, the Spaniard, who you thought would be immune to such things after his role in ending Borg's comeback in Monte Carlo, seemed to be more affected by the prospect of playing Becker than vice versa, and rarely mustered the passing shots or the belief to disturb Becker's control. Perhaps because of the five-week rest, there was no sign of the usual lethargy which makes Becker so vulnerable early in grand slam tournaments.

"I knew how I had to play from the first point and I did it, and that's why the match was rather easy," he said. "If I could play like that a couple more times..."

Edberg was similarly encouraged by his first win in the French Open since he beat



Becker: easy progress

Becker in the semi-final in 1989. Though Wuyts should not have tested him unduly, Edberg was still treading a little gingerly after injuring his hip last week in Düsseldorf, and a 6-2, 6-2, 6-3 victory as good as he could have hoped for.

Blond and boyish — not unlike Edberg a few years ago, in fact — Wuyts could not quite fill his shirt or shorts, as

if his mother had bought them on the understanding he would fill out in a year or two. But his game, based on a solid and sometimes deadly forehand and consistent running, was neat enough. He helped Belgium into the world group of the Davis Cup in recent seasons, so he is not a novice, and he consistently threatened the Swede's serve, which will need to be as sharp as Becker's stubble in days to come.

Edberg, however, thinks that conditions this year favour the serve-and-volleyers and the power players. "It is different from last year, certainly. The balls, especially, are quicker and the courts are very hard. Those are good conditions for us." He meant him and Becker, but it could equally be Ivanisevic and Sampras, both of whom won the latter coming from two sets down against last year's semi-finalist, Thomas Muster. Ivanisevic, who beat Becker

on this day last year, celebrated in traditional style, taking the first set and throwing away the next before beating a Casablancaan in four sets. The Yugoslav was also given a code violation for spitting at a linesman who had foot-faulted him. Ivanisevic denied the charge — "I can spit wherever I want" — but was fined \$1,000 for "unsportsmanlike conduct" just the same.

Seles, the other person in Paris who will be supporting Red Star against Marseilles in the European Cup final tonight, opened the defence of her title with a 6-3, 6-0 victory over Radka Zrubakova. She had far more trouble trying to work out if she would prefer to be Madonna or Suzanne Lenglen, the first true tennis celebrity. Wisely, she did not risk delighting the populists and outraging the tennis purists by making a choice. The No. 8 seed, Garrison, probably wished she was anywhere else, as she lost in the first round

for the second year in succession, this time to Naoko Sawamatsu, of Japan. The less said about the performance of the British girls the better. The one curiosity was Sara Gomer, who saved ten match points against the French girl, Nathalie Guericq, but still lost. Clare Wood and Sarah Loosemore managed a total of nine games. They would probably have preferred to remain incognito.

## GOLF

### Walker Cup moves to new stage in Ireland

By MITCHELL PLATT

THE Johnnie Walker PGA Cup match between Europe and the United States, the holders, is to be staged in the Republic of Ireland next year at the Kildare Hotel and Country Club, near Dublin, on September 11 to 13. John Lindsey, the executive director of The Professional Golfers' Association, said: "This is the first time the home matches have left the United Kingdom and there could not be a better venue." Paul Leonard, who played in the 1979 and 1982 matches, will captain the team.

The Kildare course was designed by Arnold Palmer, and

stretches 6,453 metres from the championship tees. Vicki Thomas, the 1990 British strokeplay champion, is in the Great Britain team, captained by Elizabeth Boatman, for the Commonwealth tournament at the Northumberland Golf Club, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, on June 6 to 8.

Thomas, who earlier this month won the Welsh championship for a record seventh time, is joined in the team, by Elaine Farquharson, Lizzie Fletcher, Julie Hall and Catharine Lambert. All five were members of the 1990 Curtis Cup team.

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## NETBALL

By LOUISE TAYLOR

THE England party meets up again at Farnborough for another training camp this weekend, when Wheeler and Betty Galsworthy, the national coach, will discuss the medical assessments with individuals.

At an AENA executive meeting in London last weekend it was decided that Brian Worrell, a member of its national executive, would fly to the tournament in Australia with a three-fold mission.

He is to research the marketing and publicity of the event with a view to briefing England on the preparations it needs to make before hosting the next world championships in 1995; to act as press and publicity officer for the England team, and to study the evolution of the men's game in Australia in order to determine how it could be best developed in Great

Britain. Next year the England under-21 side will travel to Fiji, who have been named as hosts of the 1992 world youth championships.

Closer to home, next Tuesday a party of players from Malta arrives in London to play two fixtures, against Surrey and Essex Metropolitans.

Their visit is part of an AENA initiative intended to promote interest in the sport throughout Europe. Outside the United Kingdom very little netball is played on the Continent, but AENA has recently been instrumental in establishing a

Federation of European Netball Associations, and is hoping that, along with Gibraltar, Malta will be the first country to join England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland in the expansionist venture.

## SCHOOLS CRICKET

### Etonian sons follow a tradition

WAGG and Dunning, who gave Eton an eight-wicket win over a Northamptonshire under-19 XI in an important second-round match, will have revived memories of a generation ago when their respective fathers opened for Eton (George Chesteron writes). The Northamptonshire side was bowled out for 149, Whittington taking six for 43.

On the previous day he took four Chatterhouse wickets and Wagg made 78 before Eton's

declaration at 203 for five. They could only dismiss eight Chatterhouse batsmen for 109.

With less than a fortnight to go before meeting Eton at Lord's, Harrow beat Tonbridge in the last over. Tonbridge had recovered from 58 for five to six, thanks mainly to Ford, who made 76 not out in his first match. Williams (94) was the main architect of Harrow's seven-wicket victory.

In their annual local derby, Loretto entertained Fettes and beat them by nine wickets. Bedi, the off-spinner, took four for 23 as Fettes struggled to 119. Garbutt, with 46 not out, and Finney (39) led Loretto home.

As part of their 150th anniversary celebrations, Chatterhouse resurrected a 100-year-old fixture with Wellington College, for whom Surrey-Cookson scored a half-century in each innings. Set 210 to win, Chatterhouse finished 64 short with three wickets left.

## Hazards waiting for those who chat on the box

By PETER BARNARD

WHO would be a television sports pundit? That is not an invitation to form a queue. Pause a moment and consider the toothpaste tube nature of televised pronouncements: once out, just try putting them back in.

Take, for example, Jimmy Hill. Ten days after the very serious domestic football programme ended with an own goal in the FA Cup final, fairly silly international football staggered to an anti-climax at the weekend with something of an own goal by Hill.

Hill was giving his views on the England-Argentina game when Desmond Lynam sent over a hospital pass: "So far, how would you mark Graham Taylor out of ten?"

Of all the possible replies to this, Hill chose to say that as he and Lynam wanted to go on getting their match tickets, he would give Taylor ten. Chuckle, chuckle, ho, ho, Jimmy, you are a fool.

Dear me, talk about feeding a prejudice. The audience at home is only too willing to believe that television sports pundits, and indeed sports writers, are part of a conspiracy to further the interests of sport. Not so (for the most part), but widely believed.

None of which alters the fact that Hill and the rest of the team have been consistently enlightening throughout a season in which BBC Sport's coverage of the FA Cup has been a model of the genre.

If I wanted to enter a caveat it would be to plead for less background music. Dramatic music gives a spurious veneer to a mere game: the artistry should speak for itself.

Not the least of the BBC's achievements has been in choosing the right people to sit alongside the commentator, John Motson. I hope that Jimmy Greaves, of ITV, will spend part of the summer watching tapes of the Motson-Trevor Brook partnership.

Brooking talks sparingly and says a lot. Greaves tends towards the sort of ramble that is better confined to rural pathways.

Football people talking too much is contagious. In the Ramsey era, there were days when Sir Half was monosyllabic and days when he was not nearly so forthcoming.



Alliss: a style that works

## SPORT ON TELEVISION THE WEEK IN REVIEW

Whatever caused the tension in Kenny Dalglish, it was not the strain of writing speeches. Graeme Souness, the present Liverpool manager, like the present England one, is not averse to a paragraph where a sentence would do: Taylor is positively Kinnockian.

After the Argentina match, Taylor said that he was pleased with the performance except that England threw it away. Eh? I doubt the response would have been quite that flip if the game had mattered a jot.

Another commentating difficulty was highlighted over the holiday. I cannot quite decide if one-day cricket is fairly silly or fairly serious. By their attitude on the field, the West Indians appear to think it is fairly silly, something to do until a proper match comes along.

The trouble with the one-day game is the dependence on a close finish. There was little hope of that in the third game on Monday, and in the second, a decisive encounter, with West Indies set what looked an impossible target. Messrs. Bennett, Bannister, Graveney and Illingworth had the task of keeping us interested even as the required run-rate went into double figures.

Phrases like "anything could still happen", and "you never know in this game", sounded like a PR man's version of "please don't switch off".

Such clichés invite ribaldry, except that in one-day cricket, anything can happen. On this occasion, anything very nearly did happen.

In golf, such commentating difficulties are not so much absent as irrelevant.

The standard of play is so consistently high, and the nature of the contest so personal, that who is leading and by how much hardly matters to the disinterested viewer.

Seve Ballesteros has rediscovered a touch so sure that one is tempted to think he occasionally hits the ball into the nearest forest to give the zoom lenses some work. Or perhaps he does it as a joke at the expense of programme schedulers, who know full well that nothing following golf will happen when they say it will happen.

Peter Alliss is an idiosyncratic commentator who at times sounds as if he is doing a voice-over for Thomas the Tank Engine (Whoosh! Gosh!), but the idiosyncrasy for him more often than they work against him.

Along with cream teas, long sunsets and the smell of mint growing wild, golf is one of the pleasures of the summer. Who wins? Who cares?

هكذا من الأمل







# Nottinghamshire fail to keep up with the clock

By IVO TENNANT

LEICESTER (final day of three): Leicestershire (5 points) drew with Nottinghamshire (8)

NEEDING to score 206 from 40 overs, the kind of total well within their compass in Sunday cricket, Nottinghamshire could not quite keep up with requirements. Chris Broad made 91 and others contributed, but they were still 12 short at the death.

Nottinghamshire had initially judged this pretty well, which considering they lead the Sunday League, was not surprising. The pitch may have been worn, the bowlers able to get away with balls that on Sundays would have been adjudged wide, but the disciplines were the same.

By the ninth of these overs, when Broad was pulling and straight-driving Maguire for successive fours, Leicestershire were already down to only one slip. They never looked as if they thought they would win. So Maguire was used throughout as a stock bowler.

When he bowled Pollard, the openers had made 68 in 17 overs. Johnson came in instead of Robinson and swung Willey over square leg for six. That ball disappeared and the replacement nearly did too.

Wicket	P	W	D	L	R	B	P	B
Wicket	5	3	1	1	1	1	1	1
Wicket	5	3	1	1	1	1	1	1
Wicket	5	3	1	1	1	1	1	1
Wicket	5	3	1	1	1	1	1	1
Wicket	5	3	1	1	1	1	1	1
Wicket	5	3	1	1	1	1	1	1
Wicket	5	3	1	1	1	1	1	1
Wicket	5	3	1	1	1	1	1	1
Wicket	5	3	1	1	1	1	1	1
Wicket	5	3	1	1	1	1	1	1

1880 positions in brackets

since it was promptly sent to the same spot.

An upper-cut from Johnson that screamed over the wicketkeeper's head was another effective shot. An attempted drive over mid-off was not, and neither was it necessary. Potter held the catch and, for a while, Nottinghamshire were inconvenienced. Broad and Randall managed 14 runs in the next five overs.

Then Randall unfurled a beautiful cover drive, a feature of his play in this match. With Broad he added 66 in 13 overs before Pollard bowled him off his pads. Robinson now came in, only to drive Pollard to short extra, and French was caught behind next ball, flinging the bat.

Broad averted the hat-trick,

but only five runs came off the 38th over. From the first ball of the penultimate over, 19 needed, Broad, having made 91 off 114 balls, mis-hit a full toss back to Maguire. There were still 15 required from the last over, bowled by Pollard, and this was beyond Stephenson and Saxelby.

The pitch, although not a good one from the first day, had not deteriorated. The odd ball still jumped from a length or turned significantly, but Leicestershire's second innings wickets were mostly lost to indiscriminate shots or a lack of footwork.

Briers was at fault when Stephenson bowled him and Whitaker was not quite far enough forward to free Evans. Potter, though, was starting to bat uncommonly well. When Pick changed ends, he was put away for three successive fours through the legside. This was how Potter once batted for Kent, when so much was expected of him.

This was his first championship half century of the season, and he was perhaps a little unlucky to be given out leg-before sweeping at Afford. His 64 included 12 fours. Hopworth, too, made his highest championship score of the season, 56.

## Final ball brings victory to Surrey

By RICHARD STREETON

BOURNEMOUTH: Surrey (22pts) beat Hampshire (7) by one wicket

IN A dramatic finish Surrey won from the final ball with their last two batsmen at the wicket. Waqar Younis, who earlier had finished with 11 wickets for the second successive championship game, scored the winning hit when he pulled Maru high towards mid-wicket and he and Murphy secured a title.

Surrey had been set to make 256 from what proved to be 60 overs, a target which in bitterly cold and dark conditions was more taxing than it might seem. They still needed 13, with four wickets left, from the last three overs, by which time all five bulbs on the electrical light meter were illuminated. Maru, the left-arm spinner, returned and third ball had Thorpe held at short mid-wicket by Gower above his head and sixth ball had Martin Bicknell held in the same place. Sargeant and Waqar took five singles from Connor's next over, which left eight wickets from the last.

Maru was the bowler and it took him 14 minutes to bowl as Nicholas meticulously adjusted his field after every ball. Two singles came before Sargeant off-drove a four from the third end then gave Maru a return catch. Murphy, the last man, swept a single from the fifth ball before Waqar's decisive blow.

Surrey had made a poor start to their innings, with the bowling of Darren Bicknell third ball and at 32 having Ward leg before. Alkhan and Lynch added 70 as the run rate increased but both fell soon after tea.

Alkhan was held at second slip and Lynch fell to a good catch by Nicholas at wide mid-off. Thorpe and Greig, however, rallied Surrey with a stirring fifth wicket stand of 111 in 22 overs. Surrey needed 114 when the final 20 overs began. This had shrunk to 30 from six when Greig and Medley were dismissed in the same over by Connor. Greig, who hit nine fours, gave a return catch and Murphy's defensive stroke was beaten by pace. Thorpe retained the initiative for Surrey and had hit a six and six fours when he was out.

Waqar earlier took two further wickets before Hampshire declared 20 minutes after lunch. He took five for 70 in the innings and had match figures of 11 for 136. Greig declined to risk Medley in the unhelpful conditions, just as Nicholas had given Maru, his left-arm spinner, only one over on Monday when play dragged on until 7.25. Sooner or later the legislators might have to consider stipulating that a set proportion of overs should be bowled by the spinners if they are not to perish as a breed. This might sound heretical but plenty of spectators would not be averse to it. In Martin Bicknell's absence, Waqar's mostly used a fast-paced run shared one end with Greig while Murphy bowled unchanged at the other throughout the innings. Murphy had bowled for 2 1/2 hours on Monday evening and again confirmed his durability, but it made for tedious watching, even if the thrilling finale stood for the crowd.

Waqar could not have claimed two more distinguished victims as he dismissed Robin Smith and Gower in successive overs. Smith flicked a ball on his leg to square-leg and Gower moved in front against a slower



Easy go: Gower reflects on his early dismissal

ball that kept low. Gower has now scored 85 runs from six completed innings this season.

MINOR COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIP: Hampshire beat Dorset 186-6 (D. Bicknell 71, M. Briers 81, P. Whiteman 4-59) and Somerset 201-4 (D. Bicknell 71, M. Briers 81, P. Whiteman 4-59). RANGLING CRICKET: SECOND XI CHAMPIONSHIP: Hampshire beat Dorset 186-6 (D. Bicknell 71, M. Briers 81, P. Whiteman 4-59) and Somerset 201-4 (D. Bicknell 71, M. Briers 81, P. Whiteman 4-59).

## Somerset survive as Middlesex run out of ideas

By JOHN WOODCOCK

TAUNTON: Somerset (4pts) drew with Middlesex (8)

WITH Cook and Roebuck making 145 for Somerset's first wicket, Middlesex never looked like achieving their first championship victory of the season here yesterday. At the finish, Somerset were 265 for five in their second innings - 62 runs ahead - but not until the last hour were they completely safe from defeat.

On pitches as slow as they mostly are at the moment - this one had long since lost what early pace it had - bowlers who spend so much time concerned primarily with containment, owing to the demands of one-day cricket, are almost inevitably short of ideas when it comes to getting sides out.

By starting the bowling yesterday morning with Embury and Tufnell, Gidding showed at once how he thought the match would most likely be won. But nothing much happened. If the ball turned, it never hummed, and neither Cook nor Roebuck looked much like being beaten in the air, partly because Tufnell bowled very fast.

To two such students of the theory and practice of survival as Somerset's opening pair, the situation was one to be relished. Roebuck, in fact, batted for just under nine hours in the match before being dismissed. He and Cook stayed together until 35 minutes after lunch, by which time Somerset were only 58 behind and the draw was beginning to look inevitable.

Cook was caught at the wicket, off the face of the bat, trying to run Embury down to

third man. It happened silently enough for no one other than the wicketkeeper and gully to appear yet Cook went without so much as a glance at the umpire, which puts him, as a walker, among an ever-diminishing minority.

Cook is not yet quite in his form of the last two seasons. He is not moving behind and into the line of the ball as he will when a gas warmer and his confidence fully returns.

Yesterday, it had become thoroughly bleak by the late afternoon - not at all the sort of weather in which the West Indians will want to spread their wings at Taunton today.

When Roebuck soon followed Cook, caught at silly point as he played forward to a ball which turned, and Tufnell was then caught at short leg off bat and pad, the game flickered, but only briefly.

So it did again when Hayhurst was leg-before to Elcock after adding 40 with Harries. But Harries served on, playing most admirably, and MacLay showed how he came to have his best season with the bat for Western Australia last winter.

Williams had left the field early in the day, looking for the disinterested in an inconvenient. But the time came when what Middlesex really needed was one of the leg spinners who used to add such charm and character to their cricket - Jim Sims, for example, or Walter Robins or Ian Peebles.

Something did happen yesterday, though, which was a reminder of the days. In two hours between lunch and tea, Middlesex bowled 51 overs. It can be done, you see.

## Oxford's long run comes to an end

By GEOFFREY WHEELER

ENGLISH first-class cricket's longest unbeaten run came to an end yesterday when Oxford University's colours were lost in the Parks by Worcestershire, who won by an innings and 122 runs.

It was Oxford's first defeat since they lost to Hampshire in June, 1989. They had not actually won any of their 15 games in the intervening period, although they combined with Cambridge to defeat the New Zealanders by two wickets last season.

Oxford certainly did not go down without a fight, led by their South African captain, Graeme Turner, who fell when only one run short of his maiden century after a stay of four hours. It was Stuart Lampitt, with the new ball, who finally ended the resistance.

Keat, winners of only three games last season, had their second success in five starts under their new captain, Mark Benson, when they beat Derbyshire by 208 runs at Canterbury.

The Kent attack has suddenly become a more potent force with the re-emergence of Tony Marwick and Chris Penn.

The West Indian struck in his first over after Derbyshire had been challenged to make 376, Barnett holding out on the boundary. Penn, who could not hold his place last season, virtually settled the issue by dismissing Morris, O'Connor and Ashrafin in the space of 33 balls.

Glamorgan proved unable to press home a match-winning position at Cardiff, where Sussex escaped through a sixth-wicket partnership between Alan Wells and Dodsenaide, worth 222 when the game was given up after Dodsenaide had completed his century.

They had come together at 90 for five with 42 runs still needed to make Glamorgan bat again. Wells, who might have been caught and bowled by Croft when 34, made an unbeaten 153 to improve his aggregate to 547 from eight innings.

## Yorkshire's push towards victory foiled by Curran

By JACK BAILEY

HEADINGLEY (final day of three): Yorkshire (4pts) drew with Northamptonshire (6)

THANKS to a strong rearguard action by Kevin Curran, who batted in alien fashion through 35 overs, Yorkshire had to settle for a draw. They had played the better cricket throughout most of this match.

With a sap hand of current first team players on the injury list, Northamptonshire found themselves in the somewhat unusual position of being out-gunned, and not for more than a passing moment did they appear capable of making 266 in 60 overs that Moxon's declaration reasonably demanded. They did, however, look comfortably capable of saving the match until Hartley swept onto the scene and almost applied the coup de grace.

Northamptonshire had given up any thought of pursuing the chase almost as soon as the left-

arm spin of Carrick got to work; they were soon fighting for their lives against the portly former Yorkshire captain at one end. Batty, turning his off spinners sharply from the other, and then Hartley.

Carrick, who took four for 29 from 19 overs was aided by alert catching close to the wicket, while the dismissal of Northamptonshire's acting captain, Bailey, owed much to a fine diving catch behind the stumps by Blakey, who had taken the field despite previously suffering from double vision, and something to the way Bailey walked without waiting for the umpire.

When Bailey went, Northamptonshire were 68 for two, Robinson having gained his first wicket against his old county, and Fordham having lost his leg stump to Hartley from a ball which kept even lower than usual. Thereafter, Felton jogged along for nearly two hours

before becoming Carrick's first victim. Capel played the dreaded sweep to a straight ball and Penberthy and Thomas fell to successive deliveries from Carrick, both snapped up near the wicket.

After Hartley had destroyed the wickets of Ripley and Noon with fast backbreakers in successive balls, young Roberts survived a loud shout from the text. He settled in, however, with Curran to see out the final ten overs with some trepidation but no lack of courage.

Yorkshire's bowlers had been given the chance to achieve an elusive victory by the early strokeplay of Moxon and Metcalfe. They made the low, slow pitch look almost benign as they put on 92 together at five runs an over before Moxon lost his middle stump and Metcalfe, having made his half-century with five fours and two sixes, was bowled by the perfect leg break from Roberts.

## Wembley will stage day-night encounter

WEMBLEY Stadium is to host a cricket match for the first time on September 28 as the highlight of a £10 million charity appeal, led by the former England captain, David Gower.

A day-night game between Europe and the Rest of the World will climax Crickathon '91, a fund-raising initiative to benefit the Memorial Fund for Disaster Relief and to help the development of schools' cricket. The appeal, which hopes to reach its target in three years, was launched recently with the signing of a commemorative cricket bat by the prime minister, John Major.

The bat will now be autographed by heads of government and the captains of the Test-playing nations before being auctioned later this year. □ Philip Bainbridge, who left Gloucestershire at the end of last season, is hoping to join

Durham. Bainbridge, aged 33, an all-rounder, who turned down a new contract to concentrate on business interests, has been playing in the Lancashire League.

If Durham secure clearance from the Test and County Cricket Board, they intend to play him in their last season in the Minor Counties championship before joining the first-class ranks next year.

Geoff Cook, Durham's cricket director, said: "Phil's signing would be an ideal move for both parties. He wants to play as much cricket as he can this year to try to win a contract for next season and we could use his experience. We hope to have a definite answer from Lord's by the end of next week."

□ Sam Pottinger, who played for Hampshire between 1927 and 1946, has died aged 85.

### Britannic Assurance county championship

#### Hampshire v Surrey

BOURNEMOUTH: Surrey (22pts) beat Hampshire (7) by one wicket

WAGAR: Waqar Younis 4-59, M. Briers 81, P. Whiteman 4-59, D. Bicknell 71, M. Briers 81, P. Whiteman 4-59.

Second Innings: P. Whiteman 4-59, M. Briers 81, P. Whiteman 4-59, D. Bicknell 71, M. Briers 81, P. Whiteman 4-59.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-45, 2-100, 3-187, 4-227, 5-256.

BOWLING: Waqar Younis 4-59, M. Briers 81, P. Whiteman 4-59, D. Bicknell 71, M. Briers 81, P. Whiteman 4-59.

SURREY: First Innings 256 (C. A. Connor 4 for 49).

Second Innings: D. Bicknell 71, M. Briers 81, P. Whiteman 4-59, D. Bicknell 71, M. Briers 81, P. Whiteman 4-59.

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### Leics v Notts

LEICESTER: Leicestershire (5pts) drew with Nottinghamshire (8)

WAGAR: Waqar Younis 4-59, M. Briers 81, P. Whiteman 4-59, D. Bicknell 71, M. Briers 81, P. Whiteman 4-59.

Second Innings: P. Whiteman 4-59, M. Briers 81, P. Whiteman 4-59, D. Bicknell 71, M. Briers 81, P. Whiteman 4-59.

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### Yorks v Northants

HEADINGLEY: Yorkshire (4pts) drew with Northamptonshire (6)

WAGAR: Waqar Younis 4-59, M. Briers 81, P. Whiteman 4-59, D. Bicknell 71, M. Briers 81, P. Whiteman 4-59.

Second Innings: P. Whiteman 4-59, M. Briers 81, P. Whiteman 4-59, D. Bicknell 71, M. Briers 81, P. Whiteman 4-59.

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European Cup final has ingredients for marvellous spectacle with a profusion of skill in midfield

## Red Star need sense of history

From DAVID MILLER IN BARI

RED Star Belgrade are tonight playing not just for the European Cup and the reputation of their football club. While Marseilles are playing largely for money, Red Star are playing, in a sense, for the reputation and the future of their country. "If we win tomorrow," a supporter of the club for 50 years said sardonically, "we can live normally for another three days."

The overriding irony of tonight's match, which will be watched at home by more than half Yugoslavia's population of 22 million, is that Red Star are an amalgam of the country's various ethnic races, presently deadlocked in political crisis. While the nation hovers on the brink of civil war, their most famous football team is more harmonious than ever, having won the league title by a street and having not lost a match in becoming only the second Yugoslav club to reach a European final.

Yet Red Star are as multinational as the politicians who rage at one another. The team tonight has three Serbs, three Montenegrins, two Macedonians, one Croatian — Prosinecki in midfield, born in Czechoslovakia, of Slavonic/Croatian parents — a Romanian Serb, their sweeper Belodedic, and Mihailovic from Borovo, on the Serbian-Croatian border.

While Yugoslavia's politics totter, its sports thrive. In recent months, leading international tournaments have

been won at basketball, water polo, volleyball, table tennis, handball and tennis.

While Red Star are united in objective today, their lives are in turmoil in many respects. Their reported bonus is £15,000 per man, less than one sixth of the loot allegedly on offer to Marseilles players from their publicity-conscious billionaire president, Bernard Tapie, who was busy holding a personal press conference here last night. Why? Who wants to talk to a man distorting football's finances to the point of near destruction?

Quite excusably, because inflation makes their own currency almost worthless, Yugoslav players are anxious to play abroad if they can. No fewer than 59 first division club players departed last year. And Lazio, within 24 hours of Paul Gascoigne's injury, were on the phone inquiring about their marvellously elusive attacking midfielder player, Savicevic.

Miljan Miljanic, the international director of the Yugoslav federation who has to authorise overseas transfers, told Lazio that no decision could be made on any player prior to the final. If Savicevic were to inspire a Red Star victory, then that could mean Lazio terminating their interest in Paul Gascoigne, and further complications for Tottenham Hotspur.

However, Savicevic and Pancev, the much sought-after centre forward, still have a year of their contract to run. Miljanic said last night: "It is essential that we do not allow half the Red Star team and their coaches to disappear abroad, as happened to Partizan in 1966. In 25 years since then, Partizan have done little."

The only correct inquiry so far, apart from Lazio's, has been by Torino for Pancev. Ivic Osim, the national team manager, said: "From my point of view, it is beneficial for our players to move abroad, because they improve, but it is bad for our clubs."

Chris Waddle, meanwhile, was busy telling anyone prepared to listen that he will be negotiating with Tapie, following the French Cup final on June 8 for new terms on his two-year renewal option; and that he is looking for a "fair reward."

From what I hear, his reward is over-fair already for someone kicking a ball. He is pressurising Tapie by suggesting that he is "thinking about Italy."

Has it crossed Waddle's mind that, in a team game,



Family man: Chris Waddle, who plays for Marseilles tonight against Red Star Belgrade has found happy times in France and hopes to crown it in the European Cup final

Marseilles' other international players have helped to make him as much as he has made them? Does he care anything for the affection of the French public, who have helped make possible the money he already receives?

Some people in football still care, thank goodness, about loyalty. Red Star have brought as guests 200 of their well-known former players, coaches, journalists, policemen, friends... and directors! Among them is Sekularac, their magical inside forward of the late fifties, and Tasic, the left half, whose job it was to mark Violett in the last match of Manchester United before the Munich air crash.

The match has all the ingredients for a marvellous final, especially with such a profusion of skill in midfield: Jugovic, Prosinecki, Mihailovic and Savicevic for Red Star; Germain, Tigana, Di Meo, and Pele for Marseilles. Both teams are riding a crest, both attack persistently, both have versatile finishers in Pancev and Papin.

Marseilles ought to win if their mind is on the game more than the bank. Red Star will win if they can summon a sense of history and a unique contribution to their country's plight. "The trouble is we tend to have a Balkan complex," Miro Radovic, a veteran *Politika* columnist said, "so that we tend to believe our opponents are superior."

## PROBABLE TEAMS

RED STAR BELGRADE: Stojanovic; Belodedic, Radovic (or Sabanadzovic); Najdoski, Maravic, Jugovic, Prosinecki; Mihailovic, Savicevic, Brice, Pancev.  
MARSEILLES: Cimala; Mezer, Bol, Cesari, Amoros, Di Meo, Germain, Pele, Tigana, Waddle, Papin.

## Tapie's outlook causes outrage

From DAVID MILLER

IF UEFA had a disciplinary clause similar to the Football Association, of bringing the game into disrepute, Bernard Tapie, president of Marseilles, would probably find himself answering a charge, following an extraordinary press conference here last night.

Tapie took it upon himself to hold a personal press conference in the centre of the city at the same time as his team was training at the stadium, prior to tonight's European Cup final against Red Star of Belgrade. What he had to say left journalists open mouthed in astonishment.

"The European Cup is now only for the big football nations such as France, Germany, England and Italy," Tapie said, in a monstrous piece of condemnation. "A country such as Holland no longer has any chance."

Someone gently asked him what about Yugoslavia? His response was that Red Star should be congratulated for being here because they were unlikely ever to appear in the final again. Even French journalists were outraged and were openly saying that they hoped Red Star would now win.

Together with Silvio Berlusconi, the multi-mil-

lionaire president of AC Milan, Tapie, who last year controversially bought control of Adidas, the German sports equipment manufacturer, is pushing European football to previously unknown extremes by the levels of finance that they are applying to their clubs.

Lennart Johansson, the Uefa president, is known to be deeply concerned at the excesses that are now taking place, and the distortions that they are bringing to the game.

Tapie's comments last night show him to be totally out of touch not only with the morality of the game but with realities.

Although this season's three European finals have been contested by Tapie's alleged top countries, Inter v Roma in the Uefa Cup, Manchester United v Barcelona in the Cup Winners' Cup, and now Marseilles against the so-called outsiders from Yugoslavia, recent seasons have seen other "minor" clubs participating in finals such as Porto, Gothenburg and Aberdeen.

Uefa are determined to protect the democracy of the game and not weakly to concede to demands for a super league for rich clubs. It is time Mr Tapie came to his senses.

## Stein flies to verify Lazio deal

MEL Stein, Paul Gascoigne's adviser, travels to Rome tomorrow hoping to confirm that Lazio will go ahead with the purchase of the injured Tottenham and England midfielder footballer.

Stein says the two clubs have agreed a record £8.5 million transfer for Gascoigne, with Lazio agreeing to put down a £4 million deposit to ensure that the player will join them when his full fitness is confirmed.

Gascoigne himself expects to move to Rome in late July, though Stein says he does not expect to sign for Lazio until he is match-fit, which would allow the Italian side to sign another foreign player for at least the start of the 1991-92 season.

Meanwhile Nat Solomon, the chairman of Tottenham Hotspur plc, the football club's parent company, says a definite announcement on the future of the club "is likely within days."

Solomon would not be drawn on the positions of the team manager, Terry Venables, and the football club chairman, Irving Scholar, should the Gascoigne transfer go ahead.

Scholar has said he will leave if Gascoigne is sold and Venables' planned takeover bid for Tottenham has always appeared to be conditional on Gascoigne remaining with the club.

## England raise their hopes for Test series

By ALAN LEE  
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

VIVIAN Richards today returns to Taunton, his English spiritual home, to assess the physical and psychological wounds of the West Indies' overwhelming defeat in the Texaco Trophy series. With one week and two games remaining before the first Test, Richards' consciousness cool front is being sustained under increasing pressure.

Whatever the priority rating placed upon the one-day games by this touring team, Richards has a few more worries than he would care to admit. England, under Graham Gooch, have received arguably their greatest injection of confidence since the Jamaica Test in February last year.

Since then, England have dealt in workmanlike fashion with visits from New Zealand and India, which was only to be expected, before losing everything set before them in Australasia this past winter, which was not.

Morale, or belief as Gooch likes to preach, was at basement level, and although only the idle dreamers will equate this frenetic week of sprint cricket with the distance events to come, three victories before packed, enthusiastic crowds can only create a more positive frame of mind.

By comparison, West Indies, having arrived with the impetus of a worthy victory over Australia, must worry about injuries to their two openers, upon whom much of their success has been built, and about the shortage of precision among their quick bowlers, upon whom almost everything else depends.

Richards may choose to believe that each of the four has shown enough in the one-day games to confirm form and fitness and that the inaccuracies, so costly in this environment, will be almost irrelevant when bouncers are permitted, slips and gullies are multiplied and width goes unpunished. He is probably right; but the hint of doubt can only be to England's advantage.

Gooch, if only temporarily, has the high ground. He is seldom a carefree captain, however, and could certainly do without the unnecessary smokescreen presently surrounding the choice of deputy captain.

It was plain to all in Australia, if not in the West Indies, that Allan Lamb's qualities did not stretch to leadership. In mid-April, it was first evident that he would no longer be considered for the vice-captaincy, and by inference for higher honours. Lamb, sadly, seems to have been the last to absorb the news and has not taken it well, though some sympathy is due to him as Mickey Stewart, the team manager, appears to

## QUARTER-FINALS

Lancashire v Northamptonshire at Old Trafford  
Essex v Hampshire at Chelmsford  
Yorkshire v Warwickshire at Headingley  
Worcestershire v Kent at Worcester  
11.00, 55 overs

have consistently denied everything Lamb had heard from Gooch.

Those still at Lord's long after the presentations on Monday could have witnessed a balcony scene of some emotion, in front of a closed dressing-room door, between Gooch and Lamb. They were not talking about the weather. Yesterday Lamb issued an extraordinary statement saying he did not wish to captain his country again, even if Gooch was injured. Given the views of those in command, if ever there was a posthumous pronouncement, this was it. He should concentrate on his batting, which has no peer against the current opposition, and forget about the jobs to which he is unsuited.

Lamb is due today at Old Trafford for the Benson and Hedges Cup quarter-final. There, if he has recovered sufficiently from the bruising to his foot caused by Curtly Ambrose on Saturday, he will be up against the man who succeeds him as heir-apparent to Gooch's role, Michael Atherton.

Northamptonshire might have had a chance of upsetting Lancashire, with Ambrose, their absent import, in the side. But in their present parlous form, it is hard to see them delaying the progress of the holders to the last four, where I expect them to be joined by Essex, Worcestershire and Warwickshire.

The most intriguing tie is at Chelmsford, where Gooch, transient glory once more upon him, meets up, among others, with David Gower, who may never resume his brilliant England career, and Robin Smith, bristling at being denied the early chance to do so last week. Hampshire are capable of winning yet so often freeze infuriatingly on the big occasion.

Even allowing for Kent's unexpectedly sprightly start to the season — a huge credit to Mark Benson — Worcestershire should be too strong for them. There will be no Ian Botham, but this is a vastly experienced team in the cups, no matter that they have never actually won one.

Warwickshire are the surprise championship leaders, high on the adrenalin of Allan Donald's pace, and the fine support contributions of Andy Moles, Paul Smith and Dominic Ostler. In their current mood it will be a surprise if Yorkshire, despite home advantage, can hold them.

## Statement is issued

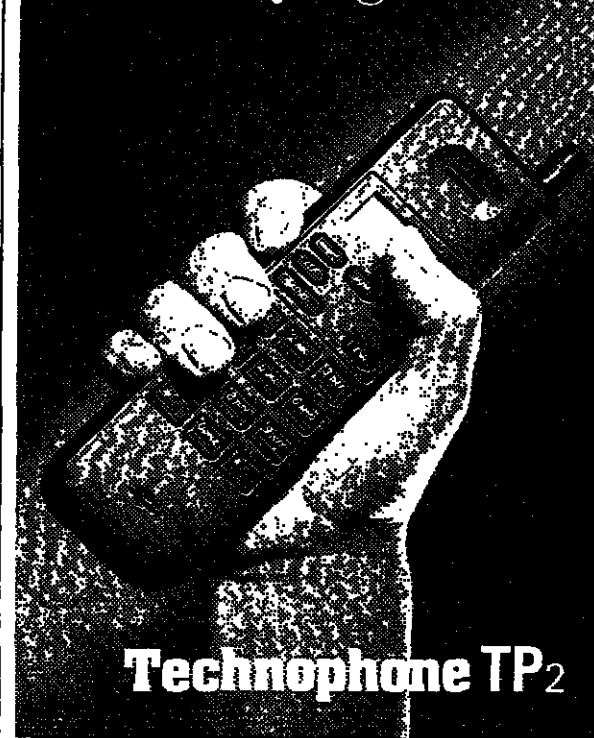
TED Dexter, chairman of the England Committee, issued a statement explaining the policy regarding the vice-captaincy. It read: "The England committee decided before the season that no official vice-captain would be appointed."

"The committee decided instead to nominate a player to take over in the event of the captain being taken ill or injured. We saw this summer as one involving possible

changes in personnel and team structure with an eye to the long-term. When the party for the Texaco Trophy series was chosen the selectors nominated Allan Lamb as the player who would have taken over."

"When Allan himself was ruled out for the final match of the series the selectors nominated Mike Atherton as the player to take over for that game only."

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## Venglos leaves Villa to an English manager

By CLIVE WHITE

THE inevitable parting of the ways yesterday of Jozef Venglos, the first foreigner to manage an English first division club, and Aston Villa, may have signified the failure of the former Czechoslovak national coach to maintain the success enjoyed by Graham Taylor at the Midlands club, but not necessarily of the experiment of bringing in an outsider to manage an English club.

However much he denied it, there could be little doubt that Venglos's problems centred upon his inability to communicate properly with his players. All he would admit to yesterday, according to Doug Ellis, the Villa chairman, was a possible motivation problem.

How much more effectively Venglos would have been able to convey his tactics and vast

knowledge of the world game, had his English been as good as someone like, say, Leo Beenhakker, the articulate Dutchman who almost brought the halyon days back to Real Madrid. The continental game, at least, is littered with successful performances by foreign managers abroad. There is no reason why the English game should be any different, providing foreigners make due allowances for the English style.

Don Howe was one of those people whom Ellis sought advice from when he took his controversial decision to appoint Venglos. He believed that the Czechoslovak made the mistake of trying to instil a totally continental approach on players who had been raised in the British way.

"Jo is one of the greatest coaches in the world, but it is

no use trying to use Continental methods in the English league," the former England coach said. "He has been brought up on a continental game that is almost entirely built around possession. But that is something we don't worry about in England. Jo needed to get used to the English game — just like foreign players have to when they first come over."

Though the decision to terminate Venglos's contract, which had one year remaining, was said to be by "mutual consent," Ellis remarked that Venglos was "deeply upset" when he conveyed his decision to him following a three-hour board meeting. Ellis, who has been heavily criticised over the appointment last summer, was busy vigorously defending himself yesterday as he contemplated who might become his sev-

enth manager in less than ten years.

Ellis denied that he had dismissed Venglos. "It was our final league position (17th) that led to Jo leaving," he said. "After our discussions, I asked him what he would do if he was sitting in my seat and he replied that it would be better to get an experienced British manager." He admitted to being surprised by the difference by managing in the east and west, especially to the extent to which everything is dominated by money over here.

Venglos's exploits in the transfer market were neither numerous nor inspired. Of his three signings — Ivo Stas, from Banik Ostrava, Neil Cox, from Scunthorpe, and Gary Penrice, from Watford — only Penrice has played in the first team and he finished the season still awaiting a goal

following his £800,000 move. Ellis has been accused of hiring Venglos on a whim or because he came cheaply.

Villa should have no problem signing a top man to succeed Venglos; the club received £250,000 compensation from the FA when Taylor left to become England manager and Venglos's salary and compensation will not have eaten into much of that.

Bruce Rioch, who narrowly missed out on promotion with Millwall this season, heads a shortlist of likely candidates who include Andy Gray, Arthur Cox, Brian Little, Neil Warnock and Peter Withe who was brought in to assist Venglos when the scent of relegation became too strong. As for Venglos, he has, Ellis said, the choice of three national coaching jobs but would probably take a rest.



Venglos: may take a rest

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